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31/10/6

COUNTIES of PERTH and KINROSS

REPORTS

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY

CONDITIONS of the COUNTIES

and

THE BURGHS OF

ABERNETHY, ABERFELDY, ALYTH, AUCHTERARDER, BLAIGOWRIE-

RATTRAY, CALLANDER, COUPAR ANGUS, CRIEFF, DOUNE,

DUNBLANE, KINROSS and PITLOCHRY.

for the years

1948 to 1951

by

JAMES KELMAN, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH.

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INTRODUCTION.

Included in this volume are the Reports for the years 1948 to 1951 inclusive.

The delay in the presentation of these Reports is very much regretted, but has been due to the pressure of work in the Department. Dr. Findlay, Deputy County Medical Officer, was transferred to the staff of the Regional Hospital Board on 4/7/48 and was not replaced. Mr. Blair Murphie, formerly Chief Public Assistance Officer and latterly Chief Welfare Officer, retired in 1949 and also was not replaced. Health, Welfare and Children were combined in the County Health Department with Mr. F.J. Earnshaw as Chief Administrative Assistant and Acting Children's Officer. With the rapid increase in the Children work, less and less of Mr. Earnshaw's time was available for general administration and in September, 1951, he became full time Children's Officer and Mr. W. Brannan was appointed Chief Administrative Assistant. In September, 1951, also, there took effect the arrangement with Perth City whereby the City Medical Staff undertake routine inspection of children in City Schools. These arrangements have eased the pressure very considerably.

In the Report for the year 1952, now in course of preparation, the Department of Health for Scotland has called for a special review of the local health services, and only a general outline is given here.

To meet the provisions of the three Acts which took effect on 4/7/48, the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, the National Assistance Act, 1948 and the Children's Act, 1948, together with the earlier Education (Scotland) Act, 1946, the County Health Department was reoriented. Under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, responsibility for personal treatment was almost entirely taken away from the County Council. In particular the hospitals were transferred to the Regional Hospital Board, which now has the responsibility of providing treatment for cases of infectious disease including tuberculosis. Instead, the County Council was given the task of providing a full range of domiciliary nursing services, including health visiting, sick nursing and midwifery. This was done by taking over the duties of the Federation and the District Nursing Associations which previously provided services throughout the whole County. The County Council was also required to provide for the prevention, care and aftercare of persons suffering from illness, duties which largely fell also to the District Nursing Service. The diphtheria immunisation scheme was also continued. It has been very successful. 85% of pre-school children are immunised and no cases of diphtheria at all have occurred since 1947. The County Council was empowered to provide a Domestic Help Service and this has now been done. A number of other services also were called for including duties in relation to mental health, of which details will be found in the body of this Report.

Under the National Assistance Act, 1948, the last remnants of the Poor Law disappeared. The County Council is no longer responsible for providing financial assistance to persons in need. The Council, however, is required to provide residential accommodation for persons requiring it and this is done at Strathearn Home and Cuil-an-Daraich, both of which have been extensively modernised, at the Cottage Home, Blairgowrie, which is now also being modernised, and by providing supplementation towards the cost of accommodation in practically all the voluntary Eventide Homes in the County. The Council has also opened a small Eventide Home at St. John's Mount, Dunblane, which may be the first of a series of such homes.

Under the Children's Act, 1948, the duties of the County Council have been consolidated and widened. The Children's Home formerly carried on at Rossie, Forgandenny, has now been transferred to Kippen House, Dunning, which though not yet fully altered and adapted for the purpose, has worked very happily and successfully. No Home has been provided, however, for the youngest age groups and very considerable difficulty has been encountered in meeting the needs of this group. A great deal of successful work is now being done, mainly with the object of maintaining intact the family as a unit, work which is being done in close co-operation with the Royal Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and the Probation Officers.

Separate reports on the School Health Service have already been issued, covering the years now under review. The very successful orthopaedic scheme continues to be carried out for the Regional Board within the framework of the School Health Service, as also are the specialist Eye and Ear, Nose and Throat clinics. Work for mentally handicapped children has been intensified, and enhanced by close co-operation with the Children's Psychiatrist from the Regional Board. Serious gaps, however, persist in the Service, as there are no facilities for speech therapy or for child guidance and so far it has been impossible to find suitable premises for a residential school for educable mentally handicapped children. An extensive scheme of improvements, covering all schools in the area, has been largely completed. These have included modernisation of sanitary facilities, introduction of electricity, improvements to playgrounds and the over-taking of arrears of internal and external redecoration. The School Meals Service and the Milk in Schools Scheme now cover the whole County, and the results are reflected in the general improvement in the general physical condition of the children, who at age 13, are now three inches taller and a stone heavier than their predecessors of forty years ago.

The County Council however have not allowed themselves to be preoccupied by their new tasks, but have adopted a progressive policy towards all matters of environmental hygiene. In housing, after a slow start owing to difficulties of finding and servicing a multiplicity of sites, and of difficulties with materials, a rapidly accelerating programme of house building has been energetically pursued and by

the end of 1952 new houses were being completed at the rate of one a day. The Water and Drainage Department has proceeded energetically with a programme of developments all over the County, of which details are set out in the reports. Cleansing arrangements have been considerably improved, regional scavenging schemes have been introduced in the Perth, Eastern and Kinross Districts. Public lighting systems have been considerably improved and many new schemes put into operation.

Apart from milk production, food hygiene has been slow to improve. Milk production has, however, shown very considerable improvement. Approximately 95% of the milk produced and sold to the public is derived from T.T. herds and the appointment of two Milk Officers to supervise and advise on production methods has resulted in a marked improvement in the quality of the supply. Considerable improvements have been carried out at Crieff Slaughterhouse, but major improvements at others await a decision on long term slaughtering policy by the Ministry of Food which is likely to take the form of further concentration into a still smaller number of slaughterhouses. For the first few years, much of the time of the Sanitary Staff was taken up with inspections for building licences and housing generally. With the reduction in this work it should be possible to devote more time to food hygiene in shops, hotels, restaurants, etc. which should shortly be supported by Food Hygiene Regulations.

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FOR THE YEAR

1948

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VITAL STATISTICS.

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1 General. The principal vital statistics for the year 1948 are shown below. The rates are after correction for transfers, and in the case of deaths, the rates after correction for age and sex are shown in brackets.

	Perth County	Kinross County	Combined County
(a) Population	90,416	7,981	98,397
(b) Total Births	1,528	149	1,677
Birth Rates	16.9	18.7	17.1
(c) Total Deaths	1,124	107	1,231
Death Rates	12.4 (10.0)	13.4 (11.0)	12.5 (10.1)
(d) Infantile Mortality	27	13	25.7

2. Population. The estimated population of the combined County shows an increase of 1,846 over the figure for 1947.

3. Births. The birth rate, per thousand of the population, for the combined County for the year 1948 was 17.1, compared to 18.9 for 1946 and 18.8 for 1947. This fall is likely to continue. The figure for Scotland was 19.4, compared to 22 for 1947, which was the highest rate recorded since 1923.

The difference between the burghs and the landward area is much less this year, the figures being burghs 17.4, landward 16.9, compared to 21.1 and 17.9 respectively for 1947.

The figures for illegitimate births during the year were - Perth County 7.3%, Kinross County 8.1%, Combined County 7.5%. The figure for Scotland this year was 5.8%.

The still-birth rate (per thousand births including still-births) was 23, again slightly less than the previous year, and less than the figure for Scotland which was 29.

4. Deaths. The death rate for the combined County was 10.1, compared to 11.8 for 1947, and the 1948 figure for Scotland which was also 11.8.

Of the 1231 deaths during 1948, 853 persons had attained the age of 65 years and upwards, giving a *senile death rate* of 69.3% of the deaths, compared to 62.3% in 1947. 540 persons had attained the age of 75 years and upwards, 43.8% of the total deaths, and 148 persons had attained the age of 85 years and upwards, 12.0% of the total deaths, these percentages being very slightly below the previous year. Of the 853 persons who had attained the age of 65 years and upwards, 375 (44%) were males and 478 (56%) were females. The corresponding figures for later ages were - 75 years and upwards, males 215 (40%), females 325 (60%); and 85 years and upwards, males 45 (37%) and females 103 (63%).

Heart disease caused 420 deaths, giving a death rate of 4.27 per thousand of the population, compared to 4.53 in 1947. 420 (85%) of the deaths occurred at age 65 and upwards.

Cancer and other malignant conditions caused 209 deaths, giving a death rate of 2.12 per thousand of the population compared to 2.10 in 1947. 137 (66%) of the deaths occurred at age 65 and upwards. Of the 209 deaths, 93 (45%) were males and 116 (55%) females.

Cerebral haemorrhage caused 166 deaths, giving a death rate of 1.69 per thousand of the population, compared to 2.0 in 1947. 130 (78%) of the deaths occurred at age 65 years upwards.

Tuberculosis caused 33 deaths, giving a death rate of 0.34 per thousand of the population, compared to 0.42 in 1947, and 0.44 in 1946. The figure for Scotland was 0.76 compared to 0.80 for 1947. The fall this year is due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis, from which only 3 deaths occurred (0.03 per thousand), compared to 11 deaths (0.12 per thousand) in 1947. The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis was 30, giving a death rate of 0.31 per thousand, the same as last year.

Respiratory diseases (excluding pulmonary tuberculosis) caused 69 deaths, giving a death rate of 0.70 per thousand of the population, compared to 1.05 in 1947. Bronchitis caused 20 deaths, of which 14 occurred at age 65 years upwards, pneumonia caused 30 deaths, of which only 5 occurred at ages less than one year, and the other respiratory diseases caused 19 deaths.

Violent deaths numbered 61, of which 6 were due to suicide, 11 to road accidents, and 34 to other forms of violence.

Maternal Mortality. There was one death from puerperal sepsis and 4 deaths from other puerperal causes, giving a maternal mortality rate of 2.98 per 1000 births, compared with an average rate of 2.42 for the previous five years.

Infantile Mortality. At 25.7 per thousand births, the infantile mortality shows a new low record figure for the county, the previous best being 37.8 for 1945. The figure for Scotland was 45, also a new low record.

It is satisfactory to note that the improvement over last year's figure of 40.2 is entirely due to the considerable reduction in the number of deaths in the preventable group, 10 this year (whooping cough 1, pneumonia 5, diarrhoea 4) as against 31 last year.

There were 33 deaths from the group of causes which includes congenital debility, prematurity and malformations, compared to 31 in 1947, and there were 39 still-births compared to 46 in 1947, giving a still-birth rate (per thousand total births including still-births) of 23, as against 28 for 1946 and 25 for 1947. Some at least of the deaths in these two groups should be preventable, but it will need intensive effort on the part of all concerned before much improvement can be achieved.

MEDICAL AND NURSING SERVICES.

The introduction of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1947 has altered considerably the medical and nursing services provided by the County Council as Health Authority. This section describes the arrangements which have been made to implement the Act, and gives details of the work done.

A main duty under the Act is to provide a comprehensive service covering the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing and domestic help. This must rest on an efficient nursing service and in this area it was fortunate that there was already in existence a well organised and efficient District Nursing Service, covering the whole area, and already accustomed to undertaking Public Health work.

The Nursing Service throughout the County is being provided by the District Nurses employed by the Nursing Associations and the County Nursing Federation, the premises, equipment and cars belonging to these bodies having been placed at the disposal of the County Council, under agreements whereby the County Council undertakes to meet the maintenance costs. Since its formation over a quarter of a century ago, the Federation has steadily encouraged the formation of new Associations, until the whole of the Joint County has been covered. Of the 47 Associations, 42 had provided houses either owned or rented, and 39 had provided a total of 42 cars for their nurses.

Under the Act, the assets of the Associations remain their property, but many of the Associations have already shown their willingness to utilise their funds to supplement the efforts of the County Council, especially by improving the nurses' houses and the standard of the furnishings. All the Associations continued after the appointed day with the exception of Vale of Teith (Dounie), which was dissolved at that time, and all its assets, including the house and the car, were handed over to the County Council.

The District Nurses come directly under the control of the County Medical Officer, and since the County Superintendent of the Federation has been appointed Superintendent Nursing Officer of the County Council, the whole arrangement has worked smoothly. The District Nurses carry out all the nursing duties in their areas - home nursing, midwifery, health visiting, school nursing etc. This is an excellent arrangement for an area such as this, since not only does it provide the most economical service, but it has the advantage that with only one nurse entering the home, she readily gains the confidence of her people, and her advice is more readily accepted.

It is apparent that a certain amount of boundary adjustment will be necessary. The earlier associations were free to choose their own boundaries, some rather restricted, some unduly wide, and later associations filled in the gaps. Relatively minor adjustments will provide a more even standard of service to the community and a more even case load for the individual nurses.

Details of the work carried out in each District will be found at the end of this report. The information below is in the form called for by the Department of Health.

1. Care of mothers and young children.

(a) Antenatal and postnatal clinics. - No clinics are held in the County, but County patients attend at the clinics run by Perth Infirmary and Stirling Infirmary in these cities in conjunction with the Local Authorities.

(b) Child welfare clinics. - All the child welfare work in this area is carried out in the homes by the District Nurses as Health Visitors.

(c) Dental care. - It had been proposed to provide dental care for expectant and nursing mothers and for pre-school children on a joint basis with an expanded School Dental Service. With the virtual eclipse of the School Dental Service following the introduction of the National Health Service, it was not possible to provide any care under this heading.

(d) Mother and baby homes. - None are provided.

(e) Day Nurseries. - None are provided.

(f) Residential nurseries and children's homes. - As soon as satisfactory premises can be found, it is proposed to set up a home for children under 5 years of age. As in previous years, use was made of Westbank Residential Nursery maintained by Perth City, the number of children dealt

with there during the year being 14. There are no homes for pre-school children in the County maintained by voluntary organisations.

2. Midwifery Service.

Under the Rules of the Central Midwives Board, all cases undertaken by the District Nurses are regarded as midwifery cases, whether or not a doctor has been booked and is present at the confinement. Under the former Maternity Services Scheme, both a doctor and a midwife were provided, and the patient could not have the one without the other. Under the new Act, it is possible for a patient to have a midwife only, but instructions have been given to District Nurses to encourage patients in every case to seek medical care. It has been suggested that the new Act is likely to lead to an increase in domiciliary confinements, but so far there is no evidence of this, and under present housing conditions and difficulty in securing adequate home help during confinement and the lying-in period, it seems likely that the pressure on hospital beds will continue.

	Before 5/7/48	After 5/7/48
(a) Total number of births (including still-births) occurring in the area.	655	591
(b) Births as in (a)		
(1) under Maternity Services Scheme:		
(a) doctor present at confinement	181	-
(b) doctor not present.	90	-
(2) under N.H.S. arrangements:		
(a) doctor engaged and present at confinement.	-	203
(b) doctor engaged but not present at confinement.	-	87
(c) midwife alone, no doctor engaged	-	61
(c) Other domiciliary cases:		
(a) doctor engaged.	100	20
(b) midwife alone, no doctor engaged	31	7
(c) conducted by outdoor staff of institution.	-	-
(d) without doctor or midwife.	13	3
(d) Cases attended at hospitals and nursing homes in area.	240	210

3. Health Visiting.

The figures shown below for first visits include all cases visited for the first time during the year, but exclude cases known to have been previously visited in another area.

	First visits	Re-visits	Total
(a) General health services.			
(1) Expectant mothers (excluding routine antenatal visits).	98	551	649
(2) Infants.	1768	15,960	17,728
(3) Children 1-5 years.	452	15,340	15,792
(4) Cases of tuberculosis (excluding nursing visits).	-	-	1,304
(5) Other cases.	-	-	-
(b) School Health Service.			
(1) Home follow up visits.			2,551
(2) School inspections with doctor.			278
(3) School inspections by Health Visitors alone.			1,216
(4) Total number of children examined under (3)			not known
(c) Other Services.			
(1) cases visited at request of general practitioner.			not known
(2) cases visited at request of hospital organisation			nil

4. Home Nursing.

	before 5/7/48	after 5/7/48	Total
(1) number of cases attended.	3,153	3,019	6,172
(2) number of visits.	46,516	44,716	91,232

5. Domestic Help.

A scheme for providing domestic help was still under consideration at the end of the year.

6. Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria has always been carried out in this area by the General practitioners.

Vaccination. The number of vaccinations notified during the second half of the year was

86. The percentage of pre-school children vaccinated is not known, but information from routine school medical inspections shows the position in this area to be fairly satisfactory. Of 5713 school children examined during the year ended 31/7/48, 78.4% were found to have been vaccinated. The percentage varied slightly between the different groups; entrants 83.9% 1938 group, 74.5%, 1934 group, 75.2% and 1931 group, 87.4%.

Diphtheria Immunisation. During the year 1948, 682 children were notified as having received the two injections, and 1010 received a reinforcing dose.

It will be recalled that as a result of increased attention by the District Nurses during 1947, the overall percentage of immunised pre-school children aged between 1 and 5 years had been raised from a little over 50% at 31/12/46 to 71% at 31/12/47. This progress has been maintained, and at 31/12/48 the very satisfactory figure of 82% had been reached. The variation in the percentage between the different districts, though less than the previous year, is still considerable, and it is hoped to effect a further improvement during 1949.

In the Report for 1947, it was noted that as a result of immunisation, diphtheria had almost disappeared. Only 5 confirmed cases occurred during 1947, all in persons who had not been immunised, and no deaths from diphtheria have occurred since 1944. During 1948, for the first time in this area, no confirmed cases of diphtheria occurred. Human nature being what it is, the success which has attended the immunisation campaign has increased the difficulty of persuading the public of its continued necessity, and constant efforts will be needed to maintain the present satisfactory position.

7. Prevention of illness, care and after-care - Tuberculosis

Under the Act, the County Council no longer has any responsibility for treatment of tuberculosis, but is still responsible for prevention, for the care of cases treated at home, and for the after-care of cases on return from institutional treatment. This division of responsibility is unfortunate, since in tuberculosis, prevention and treatment go hand and hand. So far in this area the division is more apparent than real, since Dr. Findlay, previously Deputy County Medical Officer, transferred to the Regional Hospital Board as Area Tuberculosis Physician, but continues to carry out the local health authority functions along with those of the Regional Hospital Board, and is thus in a position to integrate the two aspects of the service.

The table below gives comparative figures dating back to pre-war years.

	Ave. 1931-5	Av. 1936-40	Av. 1941-5	1946	1947	1948
New confirmed cases.-						
Respiratory	53	54	58	72	79	72
Non-Respiratory	54	57	53	27	43	24
Cases on list at 31st Dec.						
Respiratory	145	164	166	191	223	266
Non-Respiratory	163	222	203	187	176	159
Number of cases receiving institutional treatment	115	119	139	108	118	139
Deaths -						
Respiratory	32	26	29	30	32	30
Non-Respiratory	14	11	15	6	9	3

The figures show clearly the definite post-war increase in the number of new respiratory cases. This is reflected in the steady increase in the number of respiratory cases remaining on the lists at the end of each year, but is not reflected in the number of respiratory deaths, which are not significantly different from pre-war averages.

The non-respiratory figures show quite a different trend. The number of new cases shows a definite decrease, reflected in the annual lists, and particularly in the figures for deaths.

It is clear that the improvement in our milk supplies is having its effect, and that non-respiratory tuberculosis caused by the bovine tubercle bacillus is coming under control. This is far from being so in the case of respiratory tuberculosis, where considerable effort will be required to overcome the human tubercle bacillus. Earlier ascertainment of cases, prompt provision of treatment with its direct bearing on prevention, examination of contacts with preventative treatment including extra nourishment for those requiring it - all these approaches must be vigorously pursued. The local authority has another weapon however - an energetic housing programme to raise the general housing level in the area, and to rehouse tuberculous families. In this matter, the local authority is in the hands of the Central Departments. Rehousing may not show immediate results, but unless rehousing is kept at least in step with other measures, success can at best be only partial.

8. Infectious Disease.

During the year 1948, the death rate per 1000 of the population from the principal infectious diseases, was 0.04 for the Combined County, compared to an average of 0.17 for the previous five year.

The number of confirmed cases of infectious disease coming to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health, whether by notification or otherwise, is shown below:

Cerebrospinal fever.	3	Pneumonia, not otherwise	
Diphtheria	Nil	notifiable	7
Dysentery	6	Poliomyelitis, acute	3
Encephalitis lethargica	-	Puerperal fever	1
Erysipelas	7	Puerperal pyrexia	2
Malaria	-	Scarlet fever	72
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	Tuberculosis, pulmonary	72
Pneumonia, acute influenzal	1	Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary	24
Pneumonia, acute primary	9	Typhoid fever	1
		Paratyphoid fever	-

For many years past, the incidence of infectious disease has steadily declined. The last epidemic of scarlet fever had its peak in 1933, when there were 548 cases with 5 deaths, and in recent years there have been only a small number of relatively mild cases. The last period of increased prevalence of diphtheria was in 1941, when there were 149 cases with 6 deaths, and as noted above it has now reached vanishing point as a result of immunisation. The last outbreak of paratyphoid was in 1944, when 54 cases occurred, including related cases notified elsewhere.

Poliomyelitis, of which there had been only odd cases previously, suddenly reached epidemic proportions in the British Isles in 1947. This County, with 30 cases, escaped relatively lightly, there being only 2 deaths, and only 9 cases with residual disability. During 1948, although the incidence generally remained on a higher level than before 1947, this County escaped very lightly, there being only 3 cases. Experience abroad suggests that poliomyelitis may prove to be a serious problem in this country over the next period of years.

Definite information regarding whooping cough and measles is not available, but from school figures the incidence remained low during the year.

9. Venereal Diseases.

The figures for patients from this area in attendance at the clinics at Perth, Dundee and Stirling are shown below:-

	Perth	Dundee	Stirling	Totals
New cases:				
(a) Syphilis	17	1	8	26
(b) Gonorrhoea	10	1	9	20
(c) Other venereal conditions	17	18	5	40
Totals	44	20	22	86
(d) Non-venereal conditions	16	6	46	68
Total attendances of all cases	703	620	384	1707

Of the new cases, the figures for syphilis are slightly higher than average, and for gonorrhoea are below average. The figures for other venereal conditions and non-venereal conditions are again much above average. The total attendances show a considerable decrease, no doubt due to the increased efficiency of modern methods of treatment.

10. Mental Health Service.

With the advent of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947, the remaining links between the Mental Health Services and the Poor Law disappeared. The responsibility for the maintenance of mental patients (lunatic and mental defective) in hospitals and institutions was transferred from the County Council to the Regional Hospital Board. The duty of taking action to secure the removal of mental patients still remains with the County Council. Formerly this duty was carried out by the Public Assistance Officers. It is now carried out by "Authorised" Officers, who are members of the staff of the Health and Welfare Department.

The number of persons admitted to hospital at the instance of Authorised Officers during the year was 11, of whom 10 were admitted to the Hospital, Murthly, and 1 was admitted to Springfield Hospital, in Fife.

Baldovan Institution is the only accommodation for mental defectives in the Eastern Region. The flow of admissions is therefore very slow. Two cases from this area were admitted during the year, and at the end of the year four cases were on the waiting list. These figures underestimate the real need for accommodation, as under present conditions only the cases which are unmanageable at home can be considered for admission.

Where a person suffering from mental illness is placed under guardianship, boarded out, or discharged from hospital on probation, the responsibility for maintenance and aftercare remains with the Hospital Board. To date, this duty, together with the arrangements for statutory supervision, has been carried out on behalf of the Hospital Board by the County Council on an agency basis. The

number of cases dealt with in this way during 1948 was seven.

The duty of providing cash allowances and statutory supervision to certified mental defectives under guardianship falls on the County Council as local health authority, and nine cases were dealt with during the year.

11. Cancer.

No scheme under the Cancer Act 1939 had been adopted by the County Council, but under other powers assistance to obtain treatment was given to one case prior to 5/7/48, after which the County Council had no further responsibility.

12. Orthopaedic Scheme.

The successful scheme which had been started in 1938 and expanded very considerably from 1940 onwards, is now administered by the County Council on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board on an agency basis. The figures for the year are shown below. The scheme had considerable staffing difficulties during the year, but by the end of 1948 it was once more on an even keel and forging ahead.

	Pre-school		School children	Adults		Total
	City	County		City	County	
Attendances at surgeons clinics	527	313	1272	13	59	2184
Cases under treatment	62	97	267	2	1	429
Cases under observation	22	41	171	-	-	234
Number of treatments	985	1421	4827	87		7320
New cases during year	94	61	167	-		322
Discharges during year	30	29	175	15	13	262
Admissions to Bridge of Earn Hospital	3	6	15	-	1	25

13. Health Education.

The usual short talks on health topics were given during the year by the medical staff, in schools and to Women's Organisations and Parent-Teacher Associations. The District Nurses also carried out a considerable amount of work in this direction. During 1948, they gave 44 lectures or demonstrations, mostly at W.R.I. meetings.

During December 1947, the services of the Medical Lecturer of the Scottish Council for Health Education were made available, together with a film unit, in the County for a fortnight. During that period, 21 meetings were held. Of these 11 were at schools, with an average attendance of 197; 5 were given to combined meetings of youth organisations, with an average attendance of 70; and 5 were open meetings for adults, with an average attendance of 49. The places visited were Methven, Pitlochry, Aberfeldy, Dunkeld, Auchterarder, Comrie, Blackford, Dunblane, Kinross, Milnathort, and Fossoway.

14. Hospitals.

On 5th July, the hospitals belonging to the County Council were transferred to the Regional Hospital Board, but as an interim arrangement they continued to be managed by the County Council. The figures below refer only to the half year to 5/7/48.

County Fever Hospital, Perth. The number of cases admitted during the period was 69, an even lower admission level than the previous year, which was the previous lowest recorded. The admission of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, originally started in 1943 as a temporary measure, was again very valuable in reducing the level of the waiting list.

The cases admitted were: scarlet fever 28 (8 not confirmed); suspected diphtheria 4 (4 not confirmed); enteric 1; poliomyelitis 3 (2 not confirmed); cerebrospinal meningitis 6 (4 not confirmed); tuberculosis 14; others 13.

Strathmore Hospital, Blairgowrie. This hospital ceased to admit cases of infectious disease at the end of 1946, and during 1947 it was changed over to chronic sick. Staffing proved very difficult, but as a result of an appeal in Blairgowrie and District for part-time staff, it was possible to open 12 beds in March 1948. During the period to 5/7/48, 15 patients were admitted, 7 were discharged, and 3 died.

Kildean Hospital, Stirling. During the period, 6 cases from West Perthshire were admitted to this hospital, the cases being scarlet fever 3, suspected diphtheria 1 (not confirmed), and others 2.

Meikleour House Maternity Hospital. In spite of grave staffing difficulties, this hospital continued to fulfil a useful function in relieving the pressure on maternity beds at Perth Infirmary. During the period, 112 cases were dealt with. Of these, 70 came from this area, 26 from Fife County, 15 from Perth Burgh, and 1 from other areas.

15. Ambulance facilities

The four ambulances belonging to the County Council were transferred to the Regional Hospital Board on 5th July. Three of these were fever ambulances, and one, originally provided for Civil Defence,

had been used for general purposes.

16. Registration of Nursing Homes

The 7 Cottage Hospitals (of which 2 undertook maternity work) received exemption under the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act, 1938

There were three private nursing homes registered in the area 2 at Crieff (medical only 1, medical and maternity 1), and 1 at Aberfyle (medical only).

SCHOOL HEALTH

Separate Reports on the work of the School Health Service have already been issued for the school sessions 1947-48 and 1948-49

At the beginning of 1948, plans had been made for the expansion of the School Dental Service, but unfortunately with the advent of the National Health Service private practice became very attractive and this, together with the absence of an agreed salary scale for Public Dental Officers, reacted unfavourably on the School Dental Service. By the end of 1948, the staff had been reduced to two Dental Officers.

The School Eye Service was disastrously affected. Whilst the arrangements for specialist examinations remained as before, the supply of spectacles for school children was swamped in the general flood. None of the glasses prescribed for school children during the first term of the 1948-49 session had come to hand by the end of the year.

The routine work of medical inspection and follow-up and of the School Nursing Service was carried on as in former years. Previous Reports drew attention to the further duties placed on the County Council as Education Authority in relation to handicapped children. This work is growing in volume and it is time-consuming, and it was with difficulty that the medical staff were able to meet the demands during the year.

The comprehensive scheme of improvements covering all the schools in the area is proceeding satisfactorily, on the general principle of priority for measures affecting the health and safety of the pupils. These improvements include new conveniences and playground surfacing at a large number of schools, and new or improved water supplies, additional wash-hand basins and the installation of electricity at a smaller number of schools. Routine redecoration is proceeding satisfactorily. In general the sanitary state of the schools is satisfactory.

WELFARE SERVICE

On 5th July, with the introduction of the National Assistance Act, the Poor Law came to an end and the responsibility for assisting persons in need, by way of cash payments and otherwise, was transferred from the County Council to the Assistance Board. Domestic allowances to blind persons also became the responsibility of the Board.

Residential accommodation - Part III of the Act places on the County Council the duty to provide residential accommodation for old, infirm, and handicapped persons, bearing in mind the need for accommodation to suit different classes of persons. To carry out this statutory duty, the Council proposes to set up Homes in various parts of the County, including Kinross-shire, but to date has been unable to secure suitable premises.

The existing Homes belonging to the County Council are Strathearn Home at Auchterarder, Cull-an-Daraich at Logierait, and the Cottage Home at Blairgowrie, and preliminary steps have been taken to improve the standard of comfort in order to implement the spirit of the new legislation. The number of persons admitted to these Homes from 5/7/48 to 31/12/48 were - Strathearn Home, 5, Cull-an-Daraich 4, Cottage Home 2.

A very useful provision in the new Act empowers the County Council to enter into an agreement with any voluntary organisation providing accommodation for old people, whereby the Council will pay to the organisation the difference between the statutory minimum charge for maintenance (at present 21/- per week), and the standard charge for maintenance as fixed by the organisation and agreed by the Council. There are a number of Homes in the County run by Voluntary Organisations and it is anticipated that agreement will be made with most of these. The new legislation has taken away from voluntary bodies many of their former activities. The provision of Homes for old people, however, provides an ideal field for voluntary endeavour, and it is hoped that the substantial assistance now available towards meeting maintenance costs will stimulate the setting up of additional homes for old people in this area, under voluntary auspices.

In addition to providing residential accommodation as outlined above, the County Council is required to provide temporary accommodation for persons rendered homeless as a result of serious flood and fire. It is not expected that the need for such a service in this area will involve large numbers, and arrangements are being made to earmark premises, particularly schools and for equipment to be provided at short notice.

Hospital care. The County Council is required to continue hospital accommodation for chronic sick in Strathearn Home and Cuil-an-Daraich, on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board, and the numbers of admissions between 5/7/48 and 31/12/48 were:- Strathearn Home 20, Cuil-an-Daraich 8.

Welfare services to handicapped persons. Part III of the Act also places a responsibility on the County Council to promote the welfare of handicapped persons, such as the blind, deaf and dumb, or such persons as are substantially and permanently handicapped by illness injury or congenital deformity or such other disabilities as may be prescribed by the Secretary of State. In order to carry out this duty, the County Council proposes to utilise the services of the Society for Teaching the Blind to Read in the City and County of Perth in respect of blind persons, and also to make arrangements in respect of the deaf and dumb with the Dundee Mission to the Deaf and Dumb, the Perth Mission to the Deaf and Dumb, and with any other suitable voluntary organisation.

Removal of persons in urgent need of care. The Act provides for the compulsory removal to hospital or other accommodation of persons who (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically handicapped are living in insanitary conditions; and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons proper care and attention. Applications for an order for removal must be made to the Court. No applications under this provision have been dealt with during the year.

Care of property of persons admitted to hospital etc. The Act provides for the care of moveable property of persons admitted to any hospital, or accommodation provided under Part III of the Act, or to persons who are removed compulsorily. One application has been dealt with under this heading.

Burial or cremation of the dead. The Act places a duty on County Councils and Town Councils to cause to be buried or cremated the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, if no suitable arrangements have been or are being made for the disposal of the body. Three cases have been dealt with under this heading.

CHILDREN

The Children Act 1948 was the third of the three Acts coming into force on 5th July, 1948, and children previously dealt with under the Poor Law Acts are now dealt with under the new Act, which places a wide responsibility on the County Council to care for children who for various reasons may not be receiving proper care and attention. The need may be temporary or it may be permanent, but obviously the County Council must have accommodation available to which the child may be admitted without delay when necessity arises.

The County Council fortunately had accommodation available right away for children of school age at Children's House, Forgandenny. This was originally used as an Evacuation Hostel during the war years, and had been carried on by the Public Assistance Committee. It has been run very successfully and the Matron and her staff are to be congratulated on the homely and happy atmosphere which is immediately obvious to visitors. The County Council has no Home of its own for children under the age of five. There is a growing demand for accommodation for this group, especially for the nursery group which is often short term due to some family emergency, and the provision of such a home will be required very soon.

If return to parental care is impossible, there is no doubt that the traditional Scottish method of "boarding out" with carefully selected foster-parents is the method of choice, and from the figures shown below it will be seen that the County Council makes considerable use of this method of care. The table shows the number of children in the care of, or committed to the care of, the County Council as at 31st December, 1948.

	Children in care under Children Act 1948	Children committed under the 1937 Act	Total	New app- lications 5/7/48 to 31/12/48	Discharges 5/7/48 to 31/12/48
1. Children Boarded out					
(a) with relatives	11	-	11	2	-
(b) with foster-parents	17	-	17	3	3
2. Children's House, Forgandenny.	17	3	20	20	14
3. Children in other L.A. Children's Homes:-					
Westbank Nursery, Perth.	5	-	5	3	5
Westburn Home, Aberdeen.	1	-	1	-	-
Woodside House, Paisley.	2	-	2	-	-
Canaan Lodge, Edinburgh.	1	-	1	-	-
Dorward House, Montrose.	1	-	1	-	-
4. Children in Voluntary Homes:-					
The Orphanage, Aberlour.	2	-	2	-	-
Orphan Homes of Scotland, Bridge of Weir.	1	-	1	-	-
Cobden St. Training Home for Girls, Dundee.	1	-	1	-	-
Dr. Barnardo's Homes.	3	-	3	-	-
Wellshill Girls' School, Perth	1	-	1	-	-
Lord & Lady Polwarth Home, Edinburgh.	1	-	1	-	-
5. Children over school leaving age under supervision.	6	-	6	-	-
	70	3	73	28	22

FOOD SUPPLY.

1. Food and Drugs.

Sampling. During the year, 476 samples were taken and submitted for analysis, more than double the number taken in 1947, and covering a wider range of commodities.

Of these, 459 were informal samples, comprising 361 samples of milk (18 non-genuine), 27 of whisky (1 non-genuine), 11 of sausages, 8 of mince (3 non-genuine), 6 of ice cream, 3 each of rum (1 non-genuine), fish paste, pepper, and vinegar, 2 each of gin, meat paste, potted meat, ground coffee, coffee essence, sauce, pickles, jam (1 non-genuine), and tinned soup, and 1 each of butter, salad cream, mustard, lemonade, sago, semolina, custard powder, lard, baking powder, oatmeal, tinned herring, sild, borax, boracic acid, dates, and almond cake

17 formal samples were taken, comprising 13 of milk (1 non-genuine and reported to the Procurator Fiscal, the dairyman concerned being subsequently fined £4), and 1 each of whisky, sausages, mince and rum (all genuine).

The average quality of the milk supply in the area, based on the samples submitted during the year, remained very satisfactory, showing total solids 12.7%, made up of fat 3.87% and non-fatty solids 8.84%.

Unsound food. During the year, 4 tons 2 qrs of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. The foodstuffs concerned included a variety of tinned foods, meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, sugar, and dried milk.

Meat inspection. Details of the animals slaughtered and the condemnations made are shown in the table for the individual slaughterhouses in the County

Year 1948	Class of Animals	Number of Animals		Weight (in lbs) of condemned meat and offals
		Slaughtered	Wholly Condemned	
Aberfeldy	Cattle	254	11	4,656
	Sheep	1,835	7	220
	Pigs	10	-	-
	Calves	63	-	-
Blairgowrie	Cattle	994	25	14,844
	Sheep	5,690	26	1,465
	Pigs	483	2	268
	Calves	177	2	354
Crieff	Cattle	726	18	8,143
	Sheep	4,615	12	457
	Pigs	13	1	290
	Calves	96		10
Dunblane	Cattle	563	14	6,247
	Sheep	3,273	7	428
	Pigs	24	8	297
	Calves	25	6	239
Pitlochry	Cattle	241	3	1,987
	Sheep	2,656	-	-
	Pigs	5	-	-
	Calves	4	-	-
Milnathort	Pigs	2,066	1	heads 89 plucks 26

2. MILK AND DAIRIES

Improvement in the milk supplies in the area continues. 37 new registrations were made during the year and 34 lapsed for various reasons. The total number of dairy registrations in the Combined County at 31/12/48 was 327, comprising 248 in Perth County, 51 in Kinross County, and 28 in the various Burghs. Of these, 176 were registered as producers only, 111 as producer/retailers, and 40 as retailers only. There were no wholesale dealers only.

The average number of cows per dairy herd was 29.0 at 31/12/48 compared to 28.9 at 31/12/47 and 26.6 at 31/12/46.

Of the 287 producers at 31/12/48, 161 held designated licences, an increase of 24 over the previous year - certified 13 (an increase of 3), tuberculin tested 134 (an increase of 24), and standard 14 (a decrease of 3). The number of pasteurising plants licensed remained at 2. The

attention of the Milk Officers is mainly concentrated on the designated dairies which are sampled at regular intervals, but samples are also taken of school milk and of milk from ordinary producers.

The results of milk sampling is shown in the following tables.

Designation	No. of farms	No. of samples	Number of farms where the bacterial count was			Number of farms, the milk from which showed presence of Coliform Bacilli	
			Consistently up to Standard	Not up to standard		on one occasion	on two or more occasions
				on one occasion	on two or more occasions		
Certified	13	93	4	4	5	2	5
Tuberculin Tested	134	747	78	29	27	32	14
Standard	14	80	5	6	3	6	1
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	2	51	-	-	2	1	-
Totals	163	971	87	39	37	41	20

Methylene Blue (Hiscox) Test. (Ordinary Producer-Retailers)

Number of farms	Number of samples	Number of farms consistently up to Standard	Number of farms where Hiscox failed	
			on one occasion	on two or more occasions
47	67	26	15	6

Most of the creameries receiving milk from this area have adopted the Milk Testing Scheme, under which unsatisfactory results are reported back to the local authority, and are followed up by the Milk Officers.

Generally, dairymen have complied with the prescribed conditions, with the exception of the requirement to seal cans, which is still not being observed satisfactorily.

One Standard licence was withdrawn during the year.

3. Food poisoning

An outbreak of food poisoning occurred on 22nd May. The food in question was cream trifles, and of 63 persons known to have consumed the food, 57 had symptoms, 4 of whom were sufficiently ill to require admission to hospital. The symptoms were typical of staphylococcal toxæmia, and staphylococcus aureus was recovered from samples of the trifle. A staphylococcus of similar type was recovered from the nose of two of the food handlers in the premises concerned.

4. Nutrition

This was discussed in last year's report, and no change was apparent during the year under review.

PERTH COUNTY

REPORT to Perth County Council on non-transferred functions

HOUSING

General. The total number of houses erected by Perth County Council up to the end of 1947 was 873, of which 765 were permanent and 108 were temporary. During the year 1948 a further 124 houses were completed and occupied, of which 106 were permanent and 18 were temporary. At the end of 1948, a further 172 houses were in course of construction, all of them permanent.

Building Bye-Laws. During the year 1948, 364 applications were dealt with under the Building Bye-Laws. Of these, 313 applications were in respect of individual houses to be improved or reconstructed, and 41 applications were in respect of 56 new houses. Of the 56 new houses, 2 were houses to be built by the County Council (each of 4 apartments); 48 were houses to be built by private enterprise (2 of two apartments, 14 of three apartments, 28 of four apartments, 3 of five apartments, and 1 of six apartments); and 6 were houses to be built under the Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act, 1938, (1 of three apartments, 3 of four apartments, 2 of five apartments).

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts 1926-38. 8 Certificates "B" were issued in respect of 13 houses, comprising 7 of three apartments, 4 of four apartments, 1 of five apartments and 1 of seven apartments.

Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act, 1938. 4 Certificates "A" were issued in respect of 4 houses (each of four apartments), and 5 Certificates "B" in respect of 6 houses (3 of three apartments and 3 of four apartments).

Control of Civil Building. The number of applications dealt with during 1948 were half the number dealt with during the previous year - 792 compared with 1544.

Tents, Vans and Sheds. In most cases conditions were found to be fairly satisfactory. Difficulty, however, is experienced in dealing with the itinerant type of camper who has no respect for local bye-laws, and after being warned several times, departs to some other site where the conditions again call for attention.

Seasonal Workers. Again no trouble was experienced with the properly organised parties, and conditions in most cases were found to be satisfactory. 31 intimations were received from employers and farmers and the usual visits of inspection were made.

WATER SUPPLIES

General. Detailed reports on all the Special Water Supply Districts were given in last year's Report.

During 1948, the Balbeggie Mains were extended to provide supplies at Kinrossie and Saucher villages; a supply was introduced at New Alyth off Alyth Burgh Mains; in the Kincardine area the Main was extended from Blairdrummond to Goodie Bridge; and a supply was introduced to Ardler village off Dundee Corporation Mains.

Sampling. 26 samples were taken of public supplies during the year, and all were found to be satisfactory.

237 general samples were taken, 69 being reported as unfit for domestic use, and 39 of suspicious quality.

DRAINAGE

During the year, the existing sewage systems in the County were maintained in fair working order.

Detailed reports on sewage works throughout the County were given in the Report for 1947.

SCAVENGING

Four Regional Scavenging Schemes came into operation during the year. They cover the following areas.

1. Eastern District. Blairgowrie Centre. Villages covered - Balbeggie, Burrelton, Ardler, Meigle, New Alyth and Muir of Alyth, Kirkmichael, Ballintuin, Rosemount, Carsie, Melkleour, Caputh, Spittalfield, Gildtown and St. Martins.
2. Perth District - Carse of Gowrie. Errol Centre. Villages covered - Invergowrie, Longforan, Inchture, Glendoick, Glencarse, Cottown, Leetown, Errol and Errol Station.
3. Perth District No. 1. Perth Centre. Villages covered - Scone, Corsiehill, Craigend, Aberdalgie, Forteviot, Forgandenny, Bridge of Earn, Aberargie, Glenfarg and Duncruevie.
4. Perth District No. 2. Perth Centre. Villages covered - Methven, Almondbank, Pitcairngreen, West Huntingtower, Redgorton, Luncarty, Stanley, Airntully, Bankfoot and Waterloo.

In addition, Perth District No. 1 vehicle uplifts the refuse from Dunning and Perth District No. 2 vehicle takes in Murthly. Both of these villages are outwith the districts. Each vehicle has a team of two men, a driver and a loader, and they are assisted by the local officers in the larger villages.

The refuse is disposed of in controlled tips, these being situated at Ardler, Rosemount and Dunsinnan for the Eastern Area, Errol for the Carse Area, Bridge of Earn and Bankfoot for the Perth Areas Nos. 1 and 2.

The villages of Invergowrie, Errol, and Scone, have a thrice weekly collection, the other villages being visited twice a week. The service has also been extended at a special rate to cover houses outwith the special district but situated convenient to the routes. From reports received the service is much appreciated and requests for extending the several schemes have been made throughout the year. Such requests are carefully considered and, wherever practicable, facilities are provided. Some of the villages are, however, either so small with a low rateable value or so isolated that it has not been found possible to include these.

Salvage. Owing to lack of adequate storage accommodation it was possible to salvage paper only, but the amount collected during the year was 40 tons, valued at £261:18:1d. In the wastepaper salvage contest held early in the year the County took second place in the Counties' section. It is hoped to extend the salvage effort to cover scrap metal, etc. as soon as suitable storage accommodation can be found.

SCHOOLS.

In general the sanitary state of schools throughout the County is satisfactory. Considerable progress has been made with the modernisation of school conveniences, of which details will be found in the separate School Health Reports.

BURIAL GROUNDS

The burial grounds throughout the County continue to be adequately maintained.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

At 31/12/48 there were 270 factories in the landward area of Perthshire. This total includes 199 factories using mechanical power and 9 building sites, in which the County Council is responsible for enforcing the provisions with regard to sanitary conveniences; and 62 non-mechanical factories in which the County Council is responsible for enforcing the provisions relating to cleansing, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, lighting, drainage of floors, and sanitary conveniences.

During the year, 213 visits of inspection were made, when conditions generally were found to be satisfactory. 2 defects found were subsequently remedied. 3 notifications were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories of defects which were subsequently remedied at the instance of the Sanitary Inspector.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades operating in the landward part of the County.

NUISANCES.

236 complaints of nuisances were investigated. These consisted mainly of choked drains, defective condition of houses, rat infestations, unsatisfactory water supplies, dumping of refuse, etc. These complaints individually may appear small matters, of immediate concern only to a few persons, but to these persons they are of urgent importance, and the work of the Sanitary Inspector in securing a remedy is much appreciated. Many of the complaints, however, concern conditions which, if not dealt with immediately, may assume major proportions, and it is not inappropriate to emphasise the importance of this aspect of the work of the Sanitary Inspector, particularly since nowadays he has so many other duties to perform.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The various refuse coups throughout the County were regularly attended to by the County Rat Officers, who are also at the service of farmers and others whose premises may become infested.

KINROSS COUNTY.

REPORT to Kinross County Council on non-transferred functions.

Mr. T.G. Welburn, Sanitary Inspector.

Water Supplies. Milnathort water supply was constant throughout the year and no complaints were received as to any shortage. The necessary services to supply the houses in course of erection at Milnathort were provided.

The water supply to the village of Kinnesswood is of good quality and the question of providing more ample storage is under consideration.

The hamlet of Carnbo is dependent on private supplies from springs. The water supplies at Crook of Devon, Kelty Bridge, Blairingone and Scotlandwell remain as previously reported.

Drainage. The sewage works at Milnathort produce a satisfactory effluent. Drainage Schemes have been under consideration at Kinnesswood, Balgedie, and Crook of Devon, where existing conditions are not satisfactory.

Cleansing. Scavenging at Milnathort has been carried out satisfactorily. Scavenging elsewhere cannot be considered satisfactory, and improvements are under consideration.

Offensive Trades. No Offensive Trades are carried on in the County. The only licensed slaughterhouse, for pigs only, is the Bacon Factory, Milnathort, which is well kept.

Nuisances. Various nuisances were dealt with throughout the year without having to take formal action.

Housing. No new houses were erected during 1948, the total number of houses erected by the County Council remaining at 64, but at the end of the year there were 20 houses of Cruden type under construction.

Schools. Schools throughout the County are kept in cleanly condition.

Common Lodging Houses. There are none.

Burial Grounds. These are well looked after.

Factories. 62 visits were paid to the 30 factories, which were found to be satisfactory. One minor defect found was remedied.

DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE.

Summary of work done by District Nurses during year 1948.

District	Cases nursed		Nursing Visits	Ante- Natal Visits	Child Welfare Visits	Tuber- culosis Visits	School In- spections and Visits
	General	Maternity					
Aberdalgie	130	6	1,200	150	360	7	115
Aberfeldy	192	6	2,585	27	1,083	71	54
Aberfoyle	83	11	1,400	136	497	30	100
Abernethy	113	13	2,501	46	290	8	36
Almondbank	174	16	2,724	100	531	13	49
Alyth & Meigle	126	37	4,062	488	1,785	21	145
Auchterarder	155	26	3,462	210	1,695	114	74
Auchtergaven	91	14	1,666	58	590	12	49
Balquhiddar	156	2	1,650	17	185	11	41
Birnam & Dunkeld	72	23	1,108	162	1,037	23	112
* Blackford	-	-	-	-	290	6	33
Blairgowrie & Rattray	98	49	1,869	279	2,638	92	292
Braco	210	8	2,088	100	290	12	101
Braes of Carse	80	23	1,464	212	754	65	134
Callander	91	12	1,381	84	509	10	52
Comrie	270	19	2,878	282	615	56	103
Coupar Angus	84	34	1,354	192	1,437	77	82
Crieff	558	64	6,521	300	1,385	75	87
Dunbarney	91	17	1,599	128	744	61	141
Dunblane	61	32	1,709	277	1,337	69	108
Dunning	61	7	1,772	49	421	25	60
East Carse	269	17	3,753	160	721	25	81
Errol	124	33	2,106	157	679	19	80
Fortingall	141	2	2,258	38	122	25	19
Fowlis Wester	75	14	1,054	83	328	-	149
Glenfarg	98	13	1,191	61	349	15	43
Glenlyon	168	2	1,599	82	365	37	46
Kenmore	130	2	1,312	12	214	37	55
Killin & Crianlarich	49	10	879	79	366	-	53
Logiealmond	99	4	1,389	39	195	-	29
Logierait	142	5	1,830	37	255	39	25
Methven	192	21	2,180	170	637	48	131
Muthill	79	21	1,680	140	659	-	108
Pitlochry	170	13	1,771	69	584	26	124
Rannoch and Foss	82	2	1,039	30	216	12	56
Scone	98	10	2,584	144	991	30	136
Stanley	97	22	886	265	819	52	127
St. Martins	105	15	1,364	125	1,056	22	67
Strathallan	112	10	1,007	78	405	-	46
Strathardle	251	13	1,909	205	321	-	65
Thornhill	106	9	1,169	63	480	-	80
Vale of Teith	155	27	2,410	529	1,145	44	135
West Carse	85	17	1,180	136	526	11	54
Western District of							
Atholl	174	14	2,487	116	607	15	87
Fossoway	79	34	1,833	100	604	32	67
Kinross	58	40	2,640	343	1,229	90	140
Milnathort	138	38	2,729	251	1,174	149	74
TOTALS	6,172	827	91,232	6,809	33,520	1,586	4,045

* Work carried out by Aberdalgie Nurse.

COUNTIES of PERTH and KINROSS.

REPORT

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY

CONDITIONS of the COUNTIES

for the year

1949

and of

THE BURGHS OF

ABERNETHY, ABERFELDY, ALYTH, AUCHTERARDER, BLAIRGOWRIE -
RATTRAY, CALLANDER, COUPAR ANGUS, CRIEFF, DOUNE,
DUNBLANE, KINROSS and PITLOCHRY.

for the years 1948 and 1949.

by

JAMES KELMAN, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH.

VITAL STATISTICS.

1. General. The principal vital statistics for the year 1949 are shown below. The rates are after correction for transfers, and in the case of deaths, the rates after correction for age and sex are shown in brackets.

	Perth County	Kinross County	Combined County
(a) Population.	90,608	7,828	98,436
(b) Total Births	1,444	127	1,571
Birth Rates	15.9	16.2	16.0
(c) Total Deaths	1,171	88	1,259
Death Rates	12.9(10.4)	11.2(9.2)	12.8(10.3)
(d) Infantile Mortality	29	39	29.9

2. Population. The estimated population of the combined county shows a slight increase of 39 over the 1948 figure.

3. Births. As anticipated, the birth rate for the combined county, 16.0 per thousand of the population, again shows a fall. The figures for previous years were: 1946 - 18.9; 1947 - 18.8; and 1948 - 17.1. This fall is likely to continue. The figure for Scotland was 18.5, compared to 19.4 for 1948 and 22 for 1947, the latter being the highest rate recorded since 1923.

There is the usual slight difference between the rate for the Burghs 16.3, and the rate for the Landward Area 15.8.

The figure for illegitimate births during the year were: Perth County 7.2%, Kinross County 8.7%, and Combined County 7.3%. These figures are much the same as last year. The figure for Scotland was 5.5%.

The still birth rate (per thousand births including still births) was 23, the same as last year, the figure for Scotland being 27.

4. Deaths. The Death Rate for the Combined County was 10.3 per thousand of the population, compared to 10.1 for 1948 and the 1949 figure for Scotland which was 12.3.

Of the 1259 deaths during 1949, 878 persons had attained the age of 65 years and upwards, giving a *senile death rate* of 69.7% of the deaths, compared to 69.3% in 1948 and 62.3% in 1947. 530 persons had attained the age of 75 years and upwards, 42.1% of the total deaths, and 144 persons had attained the age of 85 years and upwards, 11.5% of the total deaths, these figures being very slightly below that of the previous year.

Of the 878 persons who attained the age of 65 years and upwards, 384 (44%) were males and 494 (56%) were females. The corresponding figures for later ages were: 75 years and upwards - males 223 (42%), females 307 (58%); and 85 years and upwards - males 50 (35%), females 94 (65%).

Heart disease caused 435 deaths, giving a rate of 4.42 per thousand of the population, compared to 4.27 in 1948. 366 (84%) of the deaths occurred at age 65 years and upwards.

Cancer and other malignant conditions caused 195 deaths, giving a rate of 2.03 per thousand compared to 2.12 in 1948. 116 (58%) of these deaths occurred at age 65 and upwards.

Cerebral haemorrhage accounted for 193 deaths, giving a rate of 1.95 per thousand, compared to 1.69 for 1948, and 2.0 for 1947. 160 (82%) of the deaths occurred at age 65 and upwards.

Tuberculosis caused 23 deaths, giving a rate of 0.25 per thousand, compared to 0.34 for 1948, and 0.41 for 1947, and the figures for Scotland which were .67, .76, and .80 per thousand for the year 1949, 1948, and 1947 respectively. Of the 23 deaths, 21 were due to respiratory disease (.23 per thousand, Scotland .59), and only 2 were non-respiratory (.02 per thousand, Scotland .08).

Respiratory Disease (excluding pulmonary tuberculosis) accounted for 63 deaths, giving a death rate of .70 per thousand, the same as last year. Bronchitis caused 22 deaths, of which 20 occurred at age 65 years and upwards; pneumonia caused 24 deaths, of which 5 occurred at ages less than one year; and the other respiratory diseases caused 17 deaths.

Violent deaths numbered 54, of which 7 were due to suicide, 8 to road accidents, and 39 to other forms of violence.

Maternal mortality. There were no deaths from either puerperal sepsis or other puerperal causes. This is only the second occasion on which this has occurred, the other being in 1940. The average rate for the last five years was 2.32 per thousand births.

Infantile mortality. At 29.9 per thousand births, this is only slightly higher than the record low figure of 25.7 last year. The figure for Scotland was 41, again a new low record.

Last year it was pointed out that the improvement over the 1947 figure of 40.2 was entirely due to the considerable reduction in the number of deaths in the preventable group, which was only 10 in 1948 as against 31 in 1947. It is satisfactory to note that this improvement has been maintained the figure for 1949 being 11 (whooping cough 1, bronchitis 1, pneumonia 5, other respiratory diseases 1, and diarrhoea 3).

There were 36 deaths from the group of causes which includes congenital debility, prematurity and malformations, compared to 33 in 1948. There were 38 still births, giving a still birth rate (per thousand total births including still births) of 24, compared to an average rate of 25 for the previous three years.

MEDICAL AND NURSING SERVICES.

The information given below is in the form called for by the Department of Health for Scotland. All the Nursing Services are carried out by the District Nurses, and the District figures are tabulated at the end of this Report.

A number of changes in the district arrangements were made during the year. On the retiral of the nurse at Logiealmond, this District was discontinued, and its territory divided between Methven and Fowlis Wester Districts. The East Carse District formerly included a portion of the County of Angus. As a result of reorganisation in that County, this arrangement was terminated, and the boundaries of the Carse of Gowrie Districts were adjusted. In the event, Braes of Carse District was discontinued, leaving three Districts in the Carse, the nurses being located at Longforgan, Errol and Glendock. On the resignation of the Aberdalgie nurse, this District also was discontinued, its territory being shared between Dunbarney, Dunning, and Almondbank Districts. The Aberdalgie nurse formerly undertook Public Health work in Blackford District, which had no separate nurse at 5/7/48, the midwifery and general nursing being carried out by the Braco nurse. Blackford and Braco Districts were therefore amalgamated for all the services.

So far these changes have gone smoothly, but a careful watch is being kept on the monthly figure of work done, and the general position kept under review.

The Federation and the majority of Associations continued to operate under the agreement, but by the end of the year it was clear that, because of the curtailment of their responsibilities, a number of Associations were likely to withdraw in the near future.

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(a) Antenatal and postnatal clinics. No clinics are held in the County, but County patients attend at the clinics run by Perth Infirmary and Stirling Infirmary in these cities in conjunction with the local health authorities. During 1949, 391 cases from the Joint County received antenatal and/or postnatal care at the Perth Clinic, making approximately 3150 attendances. Figures for Stirling Infirmary are not available.

(b) Child Welfare Clinics. All the child welfare work in the County is carried out in the homes by the District Nurses as Health Visitors, but during 1949, 25 children from the area surrounding Perth City made 92 attendances at Perth City Clinics.

(c) Dental Care. No care was provided under this heading during the year to mothers and young children, but a scheme for providing care to this group on a priority basis had been agreed with private dental practitioners by the end of the year, and will come into operation in 1950.

(d) Mother and baby homes. None are provided.

(e) Day nurseries. None are provided.

(f) Residential nurseries and children's homes. No progress was made during the year towards providing homes for this group, and during the year children were accommodated in Westbank Nursery belonging to Perth City, and a further 20 were accommodated in a private nursery.

(g) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act 1948. No applications have been received under this Act.

2. Midwifery Service.

1009 births occurred in the area during the year, of which 991 were live births and 18 were still births. Of the 1009 births, 415 took place in institutions and 594 at home. All of these 594 births were attended by the District Nurses. In 413 of these cases, a doctor had been engaged and was present at the confinement; in 161 cases a doctor had been engaged but was not present at the confinement; and in 20 cases the confinement was conducted by the District Nurse alone, no doctor having been engaged.

Gas and Oxygen analgesia was introduced towards the end of the year. 13 District Nurses had received their training by the end of the year; six sets of apparatus had been received with a further 40 sets on order; and 6 cases received analgesia in the last few days of the year.

3. Health Visiting.

A total of 39,043 visits were paid by the District Nurses as Health Visitors. Of these, 4,732

visits were paid to expectant mothers, including 735 first visits; 15,098 visits were paid to children under the age of one year, including 1,627 first visits; 14,804 visits were paid to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years, including 370 first visits; and 1,619 visits were paid for advisory purposes to persons suffering from tuberculosis.

4. Home Nursing.

A total of 84,005 home nursing visits were made by the District Nurses during the year to a total of 6,574 cases.

5. Domestic Help.

No domestic helps were employed by the Authority, but during the year assistance towards the cost of providing home help was provided in 2 cases.

6. Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination. The number of vaccinations notified during the year 1949 was 552. The percentage of pre-school children vaccinated is not known, but information from routine school medical inspections shows the position in this area to be fairly satisfactory. Of 5445 school children examined during the year ended 31/7/49, 77.4% were found to have been vaccinated. The percentage varied slightly between the different groups: entrants 80.3%; 1939 group 73.5%; 1935 group 76.9%; and 1932 group 87.1%.

Diphtheria Immunisation. During the year 1949, 643 children were notified as having received the two injections, and 576 children received a reinforcing dose.

Information from District Nurses' Records shows that at 31/12/49 the over-all percentage of immunised pre-school children aged between 1 and 5 years had reached the very satisfactory level of 84%. The variation between the different districts is gradually being reduced.

This satisfactory position reflects great credit on the work of the District Nurses, on whom we rely for propaganda. It is gratifying to record that for the second year in succession no confirmed cases of diphtheria occurred in this area, the last cases having occurred in October 1947, and the last deaths in 1944. One confirmed case occurred in a patient from outwith the area, sick on arrival here.

Other Diseases. In the absence of a reliable vaccine against whooping cough, immunisation against this disease is not included in the Council's scheme, although a number of general practitioners employ a combined diphtheria/whooping cough prophylactic with fair success.

7. Prevention of illness, Care and After-Care.

Tuberculosis. The preventive work in connection with tuberculosis is carried out by the Area Tuberculosis Physician of the Regional Hospital Board, who is thus in a position to correlate prevention with treatment. The table below gives comparative figures dating back to pre-war years.

	Av. 1931-5	Av. 1936-40	Av. 1941-5	1946	1947	1948	1949
New confirmed cases:-							
Respiratory.	53	54	53	72	79	72	84
Non-Respiratory.	54	57	53	27	43	24	24
Cases on list at 31st Dec:-							
Respiratory.	145	164	166	191	223	266	277
Non-Respiratory.	163	222	203	187	176	159	144
Number of cases receiving							
Inst. treatment:-	115	119	139	108	113	139	106
Deaths:-							
Respiratory.	32	26	29	30	32	30	21
Non-Respiratory.	14	11	15	6	9	3	2

The difference between respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis is again clearly demonstrated. New respiratory cases confirmed during the year totalled 84, a 57% increase over the pre-war figure. This is reflected in the number of cases on the lists during the year, almost double pre-war figures, but is not reflected in the deaths which totalled 21 for the year, a decrease of 28% compared to pre-war figures, which is probably due to earlier discovery of cases and more effective methods of treatment.

Non-respiratory cases again show a fall, the number being less than half pre-war figures, and the deaths approximately only one-fifth of pre-war figures.

The unsatisfactory bed position is shown in the reduction in the number of cases receiving institutional treatment. In spite of the increased incidence the number was less than pre-war. Of the 106 cases, 79 were respiratory. A strenuous effort is being made by the Regional Hospital Board to improve the bed position, and 1950 should show an improvement.

During the year, 94 contacts of pulmonary cases were examined, an average of 1.1 contacts per confirmed case. This may appear a very low figure, but it is an improvement on previous years, and it does represent an advance in the uphill but essential task of tracing and examining all contacts. 4 contacts of non-pulmonary cases were also examined.

During the year, extra nourishment grants were given in 15 cases, and as usual, sputum containers and disinfectants were supplied where required.

General. Care and after-care is provided mainly through the District Nursing Service. The Nursing Associations have always provided on loan nursing requisites such as bed-rests, air rings, &c. The stock carried by individual nurses has been augmented, and a central stock of items, such as air beds, not so frequently called for, is being maintained at Headquarters for issue as required.

Cases requiring care or after-care are normally brought to notice by the family doctor, but an increasing number of cases are being reported by Hospital Almoners. Improved liaison arrangements with hospitals are under consideration.

8. Infectious Disease.

During the year 1949, the death rate per 1000 of the population from the principal infectious diseases was 0.02 for the combined county, compared to an average of 0.12 for the previous five years.

The number of confirmed cases of infectious disease coming to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health, whether by notification or otherwise, is shown below:-

Cerebro-spinal fever	3	Pneumonia, not otherwise notifiable	10
Diphtheria	1*	Poliomyelitis, acute	5
Dysentery	17	Puerperal fever	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	Puerperal pyrexia	-
Erysipelas	17	Scarlet Fever	90
Malaria	-	Tuberculosis, pulmonary	84
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary	24
Pneumonia, acute influenzal	3	Typhoid Fever	-
Pneumonia, acute primary	11	Enteric Fever	2

The incidence of infectious disease remained at a low level. 12 of the dysentery cases occurred in a hospital in the area. The number of cases of erysipelas is slightly higher than in recent years. Scarlet fever also shows a slight increase, but cases are mild. The last epidemic of scarlet fever had its peak in 1933 when there were 548 cases with five deaths. The incidence of poliomyelitis remained low during the year. From school figures, the incidence of whooping cough and measles remained slight.

9. Venereal Diseases.

The figures for patients from this area in attendance at the Clinics at Perth, Dundee, and Stirling are shown below:-

	Perth	Dundee	Stirling	Totals
New Cases:				
(a) Syphilis	8	3	5	16
(b) Gonorrhoea	12	8	8	28
(c) Other Venereal conditions	10	9	4	23
Totals	30	20	17	67
(d) Non Venereal conditions	15	16	17	48

Of new cases, the figures for syphilis are below average (average of previous five years, 22), and for gonorrhoea about average (average for previous five years, 27). The figures for other venereal and non-venereal conditions are about average.

10. Mental Health Service.

The number of persons admitted to hospital at the instance of the Authorised Officers during the year was 28, of whom 25 were admitted to the Hospital, Murthly, 1 to Murray Royal, Perth, 1 to Stratheden Hospital, Fife, and 1 to Westgreen, Dundee.

The flow of admission to Baldovan Institution for mental defectives continued to be slow. 1 case was admitted during the year.

On an agency basis on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board, statutory supervision and after-care were given to 11 persons suffering from mental illness and placed under guardianship, boarded out, or discharged from hospital on probation.

The duty of providing cash allowances and statutory supervision to certified mental defectives

* Visitor, sick on arrival in this area.

under guardianship falls on the local Health Authority and 7 cases were dealt with during the year.

11. Orthopaedic Scheme.

Work under the Orthopaedic Scheme covers all pre-school and school children throughout the area including Perth City, being administered by the County Council on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board on an agency basis. A small number of adults are also dealt with, mainly cases in which supervision and treatment was continued after school age. A comprehensive service is provided, including regular Surgeon's clinics and treatment by the Physiotherapists in Perth and throughout the County area. Close contact is maintained with the Orthopaedic Unit at Bridge of Earn Hospital, the Orthopaedic Scheme functioning virtually as an extension of the work of the Hospital.

	Pre-school		School Children	Adults		Total
	City	County		City	County	
Attendances at Surgeon's Clinics.	462	347	1182	64	112	2167
Cases under treatment.	82	128	298	5	8	511
Cases under observation.	58	62	135	14	12	281
Number of treatments.	1402	1618	5385	78	94	8577
New cases during year.	157	108	245	5	6	521
Discharges during year.	5	4	159	5	7	180
Admissions:-						
Bridge of Earn.	3	7	56	-	-	66
Fairmilehead.	-	-	1	-	-	1

12. Health Education.

The usual short talks on Health Topics were given during the year by the District Nurses to women's organisations, mostly at W.R.I. meetings, the total number being 47.

The medical staff gave four talks to Parent-Teacher Associations, and two talks at meetings of the W.R.I.

13. Registration of Nursing Homes.

There are three private Nursing Homes registered in the area:-

- 2 at Crieff (one medical cases only, one medical and maternity cases);
- 1 at Aberfoyle (medical only).

SCHOOL HEALTH.

A separate report has been issued for the year ending 31st July, 1949.

By the end of 1948, the dental staff had been reduced to two Dental Officers. During 1949 both these Officers resigned and for the last four months of the year no School Dental Service was available. At the end of the year, however, it became possible to make fresh appointments. One Dental Officer took up duty in the last days of the year, and two others were appointed to take up duty early in 1950.

The School Eye Service picked up during the year. The arrangements for specialist examinations remained as before, the Specialist now being supplied by the Regional Hospital Board, but continuing to work in the Perth and District Clinics. During the year the supply of glasses showed some improvement, although there was still considerable delay in filling the more complicated prescriptions.

The routine work of medical inspection and follow-up and of the school Nursing Service was carried on as in previous years. No conclusion was reached on the protracted negotiations with Perth City with regard to obtaining the services of City Medical Staff for school work, and the medical staff available is not sufficient to provide the standard of service envisaged in recent legislation, particularly relating to handicapped children.

The comprehensive scheme of improvements covering all the schools in the area proceeded satisfactorily, and in general the sanitary state of the schools in the area is good.

WELFARE SERVICE

Residential Accommodation.

No progress was made during the year towards securing new premises for this purpose, but the existing Homes were extensively used. Further progress was made with the modernisation and improvements at Strathearn Home and the position at Cull-an-Daraich was under review.

	Strathearn	Cull-an-Daraich.	Cottage Home.
In residence at 31/12/48	27	16	4
Admissions during year	21	13	7
Discharges during year	21	7	3
In residence at 31/12/49	27	22	8

A very useful provision of the National Assistance Act, 1948, is the power given to the County Council to make supplementary payments to voluntary Homes, and agreements have been made with most of those Homes in the county. During the year payments were made in respect of persons in voluntary Homes as follows:-

Belmont Castle Eventide Home	.. .. .	3
Hope Park Home, Blairgowrie	.. .. .	9
Mailier Home, Auchterarder	.. .. .	6
Orphan Homes of Scotland (Epileptic)	.. .. .	1
Thomas Burns Home for Blind Women	.. .. .	1
Oswald House Eventide Home for Blind Women, Edinburgh	.. .. .	1

Temporary accommodation was provided either in Strathearn Home or Cull-an-Daraich for 13 persons.

Hospital Care.

The County Council is required to continue to provide hospital accommodation at Strathearn Home and Cull-an-Daraich for chronic sick on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board. This is a most valuable arrangement, since so many old persons are border-line cases for whom a hospital bed is required from time to time, and it would be unreasonable to transfer these old folk from the staff and surroundings to which they have become accustomed.

This arrangement has a further advantage. The chronic sick hospitals of the Regional Hospital Board are always full, and it is seldom that they are in a position to admit in emergency. On the other hand, there are nearly always vacancies in the County Council's residential accommodation in these Homes, and whilst strictly it is no longer the duty of the County Council to provide for the chronic sick beyond the limit of the hospital beds maintained in the Homes, the spirit of the old tradition to meet urgent needs at once still remains prominent in the Welfare Service, and on many occasions during the year urgent chronic sick cases were admitted to ordinary residential beds and transferred to sick beds at the first opportunity.

The hospital accommodation at Strathearn was in process of improvement during the year, to bring the ward equipment and standard of comfort up to date, but preserving a more homely atmosphere than is proper to a ward in a general hospital.

Admissions and discharges during the year were as follows:-

	Strathearn	Cull-an-Daraich
In sick beds on 31/12/48	43	12
Admissions during year	20	11
Discharges and deaths during year	24	8
In sick beds on 31/12/49	39	15

Welfare Services to Handicapped Persons.

So far the only services provided under the Scheme have been to the blind, under an agreement with the Perthshire Society. It is hoped to give details of the work in next year's Report.

Removal of Persons in urgent need of care.

The Act provides machinery for compulsory removal if this is required but this has not been necessary so far.

Care of Property of Persons admitted to Hospital, &c.

There were no fresh applications during 1949, but 1 case continued from 1948 was dealt with

Burial or Cremation of the Dead

13 cases were dealt with under this heading during the year.

Registration of Old People's Homes.

During the year 1949, three Homes for Old People were registered by the County Council.

CHILDREN

There has been a steady increase in the work of caring for children who for various reasons may not be receiving proper care and attention, and as the facilities available become more widely known, the demand for these is likely to continue to increase. It is clear that a great deal of the work of the Children's Officer will be of an educative remedial nature involving a considerable amount of patience and time, since it is all important that the utmost should be done to maintain the family unit. Removal should be the exception, and should if at all possible terminate by return to parental care. If this is not possible, "boarding out" with carefully selected foster parents is the method of choice. These principles are being put into practice with considerable success, but there will always be a number of children who for one reason or another must be regarded as unsuitable for boarding out and for whom permanent stay in a local authority home is necessary.

Children's House, Forgardenny, continued during the year very successfully, and the obviously homely and happy atmosphere continued to receive flattering comment from visitors, for which the Matron and her staff are to be congratulated. No County Council Nursery for children under 5 is available, but it will be necessary to provide one in the near future.

Much of the work of the Children's Department cannot be translated into figures, but the table below shows the number of children in the care of the County Council as at 31st December, 1949, and the number of new cases in the Homes, &c., during the year.

	Children in care under Children Act 1948	Children committed under the 1937 Act	Total	New appli- cations during year	Dis- charges during year
1. Children boarded out					
(a) with relatives	15	-	15	4	3
(b) with foster parents	16	2	18	7	1
2. Children's House, Forgardenny	17	1	18	53	35
3. Children in other L.A. Children's Homes:-					
Westbank Nursery, Perth.	1	-	1	1	2
4. Children in Voluntary Homes:-					
Moy Park Nursery, Comrie.	8	-	8	20	12
The Orphanage, Aberlour.	1	-	1	-	1
Dr. Barnardo's Homes.	3	-	3	-	-
Orphan Homes, Bridge of Weir.	1	-	1	-	-
Wellshill Girls' School, Perth.	1	-	1	-	-
Cobden St. Training Home, Dundee.	2	-	2	1	-
5. Children over school leaving age under supervision	5	-	5	-	-
	70	3	73	86	54

FOOD SUPPLY

1. Food and Drugs.

Sampling Due to staff changes, the number of samples taken and submitted for analysis during the year shows a considerable drop from the previous year, the figures being 1949 - 169; 1948 - 476.

Of these 165 were informal samples, comprising 53 samples of milk (4 non-genuine), 16 miscellaneous medicines (2 of spirits of nitre non-genuine), 15 sauces and pickles, 10 of mince (3 non-genuine), 6 each of ice cream and coffee essence, 5 of sausages (2 non-genuine), 4 of custard powder, 3 each of vinegar, and mustard, 2 each of butter, cream of tartar, mixed spice, rum, meat paste, and condensed milk, 12 of tinned foods, and 1 each of table jelly, baking soda, baking powder, ground cinnamon, jam, whisky, gin, lime juice cordial, fish paste, sandwich spread, semolina, mixed peel, mixed vegetable, glace cherries, pie apples, frizels, Pom, flour, disinfectant and potato fertiliser.

Four formal samples were taken, 3 of milk (all genuine), and 1 of sliced sausage (non-genuine). The latter case was reported to the Procurator Fiscal, and the vendor was fined £3.

The average quality of the milk supply, based on the samples submitted during the year, remained satisfactory, showing total solids 12.81%, made up of milk fat 4.03% and non-fatty solids 8.78%.

Unsound food. During the year, 1 ton 1 qr. of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. The foodstuffs concerned included the usual variety of tinned foods, meat, fish, fruit, vegetables etc.

Meat Inspection. Details of the animals slaughtered, and the condemnations made are shown in the table for the individual slaughterhouses in the County.

Year 1949	Class of Animals	Number of animals		Weight (in lbs) of condemned meat and offals
		Slaughtered	Wholly condemned	
Aberfeldy	Cattle	289	10	4,516
	Sheep	1,438	28	746
	Pigs	7	-	-
	Calves	75	2	60
Blairgowrie	Cattle	1,150	48	23,165
	Sheep	5,733	74	3,441
	Pigs	558	3	667
	Calves	195	4	278
Crieff	Cattle	726	21	8,364
	Sheep	3,540	30	1,121
	Pigs	19	-	-
	Calves	134	2	223
Dunblane	Cattle	637	18	16,077
	Sheep	3,121	2	202
	Pigs	8	-	10
	Calves	8	2	95
Pitlochry	Cattle	470	6	2,158
	Sheep	2,411	2	70
	Pigs	7	2	70
	Calves	25	-	-
Milnathort	Pigs	2,893	-	heads 132 plucks 26

2. Milk and Dairies.

Thirty-four new applications were registered during 1949, and twenty-five registrations lapsed for various reasons. The total number of dairy registrations in the Combined County at 31/12/49 was 336 (an increase of 9), comprising 256 in Perth County, 54 in Kinross County, and 26 in the various Burghs. Of these, 188 were registered as producers only, 107 as producer/retailers, and 41 as retailers only. There were no wholesale dealers only.

The average number of cows per dairy herd was 30.3 at 31/12/49, compared to 29 at 31/12/48, and 26.6 at 31/12/47.

Of the 295 producers at 31/12/49, 187 held designated licences, an increase of 6 over the previous year; certified 18 (an increase of 5); tuberculin tested 138 (an increase of 4); and standard 11 (a decrease of 3). The number of pasteurising plants remained at 2.

The results of milk sampling are shown in the following tables.

Designation	No. of farms	No. of samples	Number of farms where the bacterial count was			Number of farms, the milk from which showed presence of Coliform Bacilli	
			Consistently up to standard	Not up to standard		on one occasion	on two or more occasions
				on one occasion	on two or more occasions		
Certified	16	120	8	2	6	2	6
Tuberculin Tested	144	905	75	39	30	36	17
Standard	11	64	6	3	2	3	1
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	2	48	-	-	2	1	-
Totals	173	1137	89	44	40	42	24

Methylene Blue (Hiscox) Test. (Ordinary Producer-Retailers)

Number of farms	Number of samples	Number of farms consistently up to standard	Number of farms where Hiscox failed	
			on one occasion	on two or more occasions
22	20	10	2	-

Most of the creameries receiving milk from this area have adopted the Milk Testing Scheme, under which unsatisfactory results are reported back to the Local Authority and are followed up by the Milk Officers. Most of these reports, but not all, concern ordinary producers.

Generally, dairymen have been found to comply with the prescribed conditions, with the exception of the requirement to seal cans, which is still not being universally observed, although there was a little improvement during the year.

No licences were refused, suspended or revoked during the year.

The attention of non-T.T. producers was directed to the Milk (Special Designations) Act 1949. This Act provides machinery for the eventual eradication of milk borne tuberculosis by giving the Minister of Food power to specify areas in which only designated milk can be sold by retail. 'Standard' will disappear as a designation on 1st October, 1954.

The proportion of T.T. stock in the county is relatively high, and it is anticipated that this area may be specified reasonably soon.

3. Ice Cream

During the year, 108 registrations were approved under the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations 1948. Of these, 105 were for the registration of premises, and 3 of vehicles. 33 of the premises were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream, 68 were for storage and sale, while the remaining 7 registrations were for sale only. It should be noted that registration is not required where the ice cream is pre-packed and sold in the original packing, nor is registration required where ice cream is sold as part of a meal. The latter exemption is regarded as unfortunate.

Generally, no great difficulty was encountered in getting premises and equipment brought up to the required standard for registration. Most of the smaller shops solved their difficulties by obtaining bulk supplies of ice cream from wholesalers or changing over to pre-packed supplies.

In one case, after registration had been approved, it was found that a store room opening off the room in which ice cream was being manufactured, had become used as a bedroom. The matter was taken up with the proprietrix, but as no satisfaction was obtained, the case was reported to the Committee for further action. In the meantime, however, the owner had experienced a change of front, and at a personal appearance before the Committee, agreed to revert to the original arrangement, which she has since observed.

During the year, 6 samples of ice cream were examined for fat content, the results varying from 2.04% to 12.21%. It is hoped to increase the number of samples and to commence bacteriological sampling next year.

4. Clean Food.

No new measures were taken during the year to ensure the hygienic handling of foodstuffs by food traders, manufacturers and their employees, but attention was directed to this matter at routine inspections under the Factories Acts, and at inspections in connection with alterations or additions to premises. Although no outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year, there has been an increase in the number and extent of these outbreaks in the County in recent years, as there has been throughout the country generally, and it is clear that much more attention will have to be paid by the Health Department to the hygiene of premises where food is handled.

5. Nutrition

No change was apparent during the year under review.

PERTH COUNTY

REPORT to Perth County Council on non-transferred functions.

1. Housing

General. The total number of houses erected by Perth County Council up to the end of 1948 was 934. During the year 1949 a further 133 houses, all of permanent construction, were completed and occupied. At the end of 1949 a further 232 houses were in course of construction.

Building Bye-laws. 314 applications were dealt with under the Bye-laws. Of these, 272 were in respect of additions, alterations &c. to individual existing houses, and 42 applications were in respect of 82 new houses. Of the 82 new houses, 34 were houses to be built by the County Council (16 of three apartments, 18 of four apartments); 44 were houses to be built by private enterprise (4 of two apartments, 10 of three apartments, 22 of four apartments, and 8 of five apartments); and 4 were houses to be built under the Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act 1938 (2 of three apartments, and 2 of four apartments).

Housing (Rural Workers) (Scotland) Acts. 5 Certificates "B" were issued in respect of 6 houses. There still remain 9 houses where work under schemes under the above Acts has still to be completed.

Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act 1938. 5 Certificates "A" were issued in respect of 6 houses, and 5 Certificates "B" were issued in respect of 5 houses.

Control of Civil Building. The number of applications dealt with during the year again shows a considerable decrease - 159 - compared to 792 in 1948, and 1544 in 1947.

Housing of Seasonal Workers. The Bye-laws for the housing of Seasonal Workers are in general fairly well observed.

The main classes of workers are the potato workers, and the berry-pickers. The former class are usually brought over from Ireland, and even where conditions are reasonably good, often cause trouble particularly with regard to personal cleanliness and sanitation, and in some cases it is difficult to convince the employer that it is his duty to see that the accommodation provided is kept in a sanitary condition.

Considerable improvements have been made in the accommodation for berry-pickers. More and more farmers are finding it an advantage to employ organised parties, when supervision is usually satisfactory. At one or two sites, where organised parties are not employed, whilst the accommodation for seasonal workers is reasonably satisfactory, difficulty is experienced from the camping

of relatives of the workers nearby, a problem which is dealt with under Tents, Vans and Sheds below.

Tents, Vans and Sheds. There are two rather different problems which come under this heading.

The first concerns persons mainly of the 'tinker' class, the majority of whom are probably incurably nomadic in their habits. The camping arrangements usually contravene most of the Bye-laws, and any approach simply means the transfer of the camp to another site. Occasionally the tinker complies with the minimum requirements of the Bye-laws, erecting a semi-permanent hut, supplying a chemical closet, and arranging for a water supply, and if the owner of the ground is complacent, he may remain there more or less permanently. Single encampments seldom give rise to much complaint, but when a number congregate together, often on an access road to some well known beauty spot, nuisance arises, and not infrequently the behaviour of the tinkers themselves brings them into conflict with the Police. During the year a case of this nature arose at a camp site near Perth where some half dozen tinker families had established themselves. Several warnings were ignored, conditions were rapidly getting worse, and eventually a case was successfully taken before the Sheriff under the Bye-laws, a fine being imposed. Within 24 hours the site was clear and has not been occupied since.

The summer camper presents a different problem. Many of them remain on the site for a few nights at most, and generally cause no disturbance or damage. Similarly the organised camps run by Girl Guides, Boys' Brigades and Scouts are properly supervised and well run.

The main problem is the family party out for their summer holidays, camping where one or more of the family can obtain employment at berry-picking. All too frequently conditions are of the most primitive, with no thought for even the most elementary sanitary facilities. The site chosen is often on the edge of the raspberry fields and quite a colony of tents and shacks may be erected. In such cases, the Bye-laws require advance notice to be given of the intention to camp, but so far it has proved impracticable to enforce this. In some cases where the site is reasonably suitable, the Bye-laws are complied with, with the advice of the District Sanitary Inspector and the co-operation of the farmer concerned, who is usually interested in retaining the workers. In the majority of cases, however, the warnings given are ignored, and by the time of the next visit of the Sanitary Inspector the original occupants have departed and others have taken their place, the conditions usually having deteriorated in the interval.

Three seasons have elapsed since the new Bye-laws came into operation, and in spite of considerable efforts by the District Sanitary Inspector mainly concerned, the results have been meagre. It is suggested that the only answer to this problem is a further alteration in the Bye-laws to prohibit this type of camping except on sites which have been approved and registered.

2. Water Supplies.

During 1949 the County Councils of Perth and Clackmannan reached agreement in principle with regard to the Loch Turret Regional Water Supply Scheme, and a Joint Committee was set up to draw up a tentative programme. Engineers were appointed and instructed to proceed with the survey and preliminary work, and orders were placed for the main pipe line and valves up to the limit authorised by the Department of Health. Trial borings were made along the line of the proposed dam. Regular samples of the water were taken during the year in order to provide information as to the treatment necessary.

No further progress was made with the other Regional Schemes, but progress was maintained on the extension of existing supplies into rural areas, and the provision of mains for Housing Schemes. The main from Blairdrummond into the low lying Frews area was extended from Goodie-bridge round to Thornhill, this practically wiping out one of the blackest spots for rural water supplies in Perthshire. A start was made on the further extension of the Carse main to Glencarse village, and a start was also made on the extension of the Comrie mains to the surrounding rural area. An augmentation main was laid to Madderty village, and many of the mains in Killin damaged by the winter's frost were replaced at lower depth.

The various water supplies in the County were efficiently maintained. Considerable progress was made with the elimination of leakages on the older supplies, the resulting water saving going some distance to compensate for the influx of new consumers. 248 houses were connected to County mains for the first time during the year, and permits were issued by the Water and Drainage Department for connections for no fewer than 2480 fittings (418 water closets, 552 sinks, 371 wash-hand basins, 305 baths, 270 cisterns, 18 heating systems, 49 field troughs, 110 drinking bowls, 52 outside taps, and 335 miscellaneous taps).

1949 saw the coming into force of the Water (Scotland) Act, 1949, providing for a uniform Domestic Water Rate throughout the County, and the abandonment of the old Special Water Supply Districts.

Sampling. 31 samples were taken of public water supplies during the year - all satisfactory except two which were doubtful. 293 general samples were taken, and of these, 32 were reported as unfit for domestic use and 62 as of suspicious quality.

3. Drainage

During the year, the various Sewage Systems were maintained in fair working order. Detailed reports on the sewage works throughout the County were given in the Report for 1947.

The first two post-war sewage systems in the County were brought into operation at Balbeggie and Ballinluig.

Part of the sewage schemes for Almondbank and Bridge of Earn were constructed with temporary septic tanks for housing developments.

Balbeggie. This village has now been provided with a drainage system which affords drainage for all existing property and allows for a reasonable development in the future. The Sewage Works consists of tank treatment with one Circular Filter Bed with the effluent discharging into the Balgray Burn. Provision has been made for desludging the tanks on to sludge drying beds.

Ballinluig. The new sewage system installed in this village affords drainage to all existing property and allows for reasonable future development. Sewage treatment is by Septic Tanks of which there are two with the effluent discharging directly into the River Tummel. Sludge drying beds are provided to deal with the sludge which is pumped from the Septic Tanks.

4. Scavenging

The four Regional Scavenging Schemes which came into operation last year have worked out satisfactorily. The amount of refuse collected in each area is as follows:-

Eastern District:-	40 tons per week
Perth District No. 1:-	29 tons per week
Perth District No. 2:-	30 tons per week
Carse of Gowrie:-	27 tons per week

The refuse was disposed of in controlled tips and they have been maintained throughout the year in a satisfactory manner.

Salvage. Waste paper was the only salvageable material handled during the year and in this connection the amount collected was 25 tons 7 cwt. 1 qr., valued at £161:16:11d. The school children gave a considerable amount of assistance in helping to produce this result. Two prizes were provided by the Waste Paper Recovery Association, one being presented to Deanston School and the other to Stormontfield School.

5. Burial Grounds

The burial grounds throughout the County have been adequately maintained. During the year, action was taken to close the old burial grounds at Killin, Balquhider, and Port of Mentelth. In all these cases new burial grounds have been available for many years.

6. Factories Act 1937

At 31/12/49 there were in the County 209 mechanical and 56 non-mechanical factories. In addition, 9 building sites were dealt with under Section 7.

During the year, 373 inspections were made. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory. In 2 cases, defects reported by H.M. Inspector were remedied at the instance of the Sanitary Inspector.

7. Offensive Trades

There are no offensive trades operating in the landward part of the County.

8. Rats and Mice Destruction

The three trappers employed by the Council continued to do valuable work during the year, and their services were much in demand. Work was carried out on 90 farms and 162 other premises, the number of rats killed being 18,136.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, which will come into force on 1st April, 1950, places a wider duty on local authorities, particularly with regard to survey work and intimations to owners where property is found to be infested, and additional staff will be necessary to undertake this work.

The problem of rat infestation is one which is regarded with complacency by many people, and one obstacle to expeditious treatment of premises is the fact that a fee is charged for the work of trapping. Many thousands of pounds worth of damage is done by rats and mice in this country every day, and if the average person balanced the cost of rat trapping against the damage caused by rats on his premises, there would be no doubt where the balance lay.

Apart altogether from the damage done to property and foodstuffs, in premises where food for human consumption is handled, infestation carries the risk of food poisoning, so that the new powers are welcomed as one further step towards proper food hygiene.

9. Nuisances

Apart from the usual routine inspections, 252 complaints were received during the year. They consisted mainly of choked drains, dirty houses, unsatisfactory water supplies, lack of W.C. accommodation, damp walls, defective rhones, bad flooring, etc.

Some 654 visits were paid to ensure that the complaints were satisfactorily dealt with and the nuisances removed.

KINROSS COUNTY

REPORT to the Kinross County Council on Non-Transferred Functions in the County of Kinross

Mr. C.M. Stevenson, Sanitary Inspector

Housing. At the end of the year 1948, the total number of houses erected by the County Council was 64. 20 houses were completed during the year, and at the end of the year a further 12 were under construction, with another 36 allocated for the 1949-50 period.

Water Supply. Milnathort Supply continued to be satisfactory during the year. At the end of the year negotiations were under way to take over the private supply at Kinnesswood. Supplies to the other communities remain as previously. Most of these are obtained from the Dunfermline or Fife Mains which traverse the County.

Drainage. At Milnathort the system continues to function satisfactorily. The new works at Kinnesswood are under construction, most of the sewers having been laid. The provision of other Schemes has been deferred meantime.

Cleansing. The Special Scavenging District at Milnathort is shortly to be replaced by a Scheme covering the following communities:- Scotlandwell, Kinnesswood, Easter and Wester Balgedie, Milnathort, Carnbo, Fossoway and Cleish. The Coup on the Perth Road will continue to be used.

Offensive Trades. There are none. The only licensed slaughterhouse is at Milnathort, and is used for pigs only. It is well kept.

Burial Grounds. The burial grounds throughout the County have been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Factories. There are 24 mechanical and 19 non-mechanical factories on the register. 71 inspections were made, and a number of minor defects were remedied. One notice was received from H.M. Inspector relating to insufficient W.C. accommodation, and the necessary convenience was provided.

General. 72 complaints were investigated by the Sanitary Inspector and remedies procured where required.

The general health of the County remained at a satisfactory level.

Mr. T.G. Welburn, County Sanitary Inspector, retired on 15th September, 1949, when he was succeeded by Mr. C.M. Stevenson. Mr. Welburn gave worthy service for the long period of 40 years, during the last 2 of which he also acted as District Sanitary Inspector for the Joint County Council of Perth and Kinross.

Mr. Stevenson is now also responsible for the Perthshire Parishes of Muckhart and Glendevon.

**REPORTS to Town Councils on Non-Transferred Functions,
for the years 1948 and 1949.**

ABERFELDY

Mr. A.I. Fraser, Sanitary Inspector.

Housing. On 31/12/47, the Town Council had erected a total of 81 houses, including 15 temporaries. 22 houses were completed during the year 1948, and a further 10 were completed during 1949. 8 houses remaining under construction at 31/12/49.

Water Supply. This was adequate in quantity and satisfactory in quality. During 1949, repairs at the intake were carried out.

Drainage. The sewage works consist of grit chambers and sedimentation tanks, with outfall to the River Tay, and have functioned efficiently. Provision has been made to incorporate rotary filters if necessary.

Scavenging. This service is operated by direct labour and has been carried out in a satisfactory manner. During 1948, in the National Waste Paper Contest the Burgh gained first place in the "Small Burghs" section.

Factories. There are 22 factories on the register, of which 4 are non-mechanical. The number of inspections was:- 1948 - 15; 1949 - 7. Conditions were found to be in general satisfactory.

Offensive Trades. There are none. During the year 1949, a full time slaughterer was appointed for the Burgh Slaughterhouse. His duties include the maintenance of equipment and he is also responsible for the cleanliness of the premises. Following the changeover, an improved standard of cleanliness was evident.

Burial Ground. The burial ground is well kept.

General. The number of complaints dealt with was:- 1948 - 11; 1949 - 7, and these required 20 and 25 visits respectively.

During 1948, a heavy infestation of earwigs caused the tenants of the Arcon houses considerable concern. Survey showed most of the 15 houses on the site to be infested, and the tenants' own use of various insecticides was ineffective. Gammexane Smoke Generators were therefore applied to each house through the sub-floor ventilators. The construction of these houses is such that good smoke concentration penetrated satisfactorily, and after this treatment no further complaints were received.

The general state of health of the Burgh remained very satisfactory.

ABERNETHY

Mr. T.G. Welburn, Sanitary Inspector.

Housing. 38 permanent houses had been erected by the Town Council up to the end of 1947, 14 of which were pre-war. 4 houses were completed during 1949, and at 31/12/49 there were 16 houses under construction.

Water Supply. This was of satisfactory quality and quantity.

Drainage. The improvements at the sewage works have been satisfactory, and the system generally has functioned well.

Scavenging. This has been carried out satisfactorily.

Factories. The 9 factories in the Burgh have been maintained in satisfactory condition.

Burial Ground. This remains as previously reported.

ALYTH

Mr. J. Chalmers, Sanitary Inspector.

Water Supply. This is ample in quantity and regular samples show it to be satisfactory in quality.

Drainage. The sewage system remains as previously reported, consisting of tanks with effluent discharged to a sewage field which has been in use for many years, and is now sewage sick.

Cleansing. This has been satisfactory, refuse being removed by Burgh workmen to the new coup at Pitcrocknie. A tractor and bogle was put into service during 1949.

Factories. 55 visits during 1948 and 54 visits during 1949 were paid to the 23 Factories.

Housing. A further 18 houses were completed during the two years, the total number of houses provided by the Council at 31/12/49 being 149, all of permanent type.

General. The school is kept in satisfactory condition. The Burial Ground outside the Burgh is well kept. In general the health of the Burgh remained satisfactory.

AUCHTERADER

Mr. Thos. Thomson, Sanitary Inspector.

The general health of the Burgh was satisfactory.

Water Supply. During 1948, pressure in the higher part of the town was improved by the laying of approximately 600 yards of 3" main from Western Road to Orchil Road. In spite of a reduction in the flow of water into the storage tanks during the prolonged dry spell in 1949, the supply was ample.

Drainage. The drainage system and sewage works continue to function satisfactorily.

Cleansing. No change occurred in the arrangements which are working satisfactorily. The old Muir quarry should serve for many years yet.

Housing. 20 houses were completed during 1948, with a further 15 during 1949. The total number of houses provided by the Council as at 31/12/49 was 155, when a further 40 houses were under construction.

Factories. On inspection these were found in reasonable condition. Three minor defects found were remedied.

Miscellaneous. The school premises have been kept in satisfactory condition. The burial grounds have been well kept. The new ladies' lavatory was completed in the early part of 1948.

BLAIRGOWRIE & RATTRAY

Mr. W.A. Coutts, Sanitary Inspector.

The general health of the Burgh has remained satisfactory.

Housing. 20 houses were completed during 1948, and 44 during 1949, and at 31/12/49 a further 20 houses were under construction.

Water Supply. The water supply has continued to be satisfactory.

Drainage. Previous reports have referred to defects of the two sewage disposal works. Engineers' reports have been instructed.

Cleansing. This has been carried out efficiently and the coup has been managed satisfactorily.

Slaughterhouse. This is fairly well looked after. Its situation in practically the centre of the town is unfortunate; its ancillary facilities are no longer adequate for the volume of work, and the condemned meat store is most unsatisfactory.

Miscellaneous. The 61 factories have been regularly inspected and the few minor defects found were remedied. The schools are kept in satisfactory condition. The burial grounds are well maintained. The lodging house is a very old building and not in a very good condition.

CALLANDER

Mr D.M. Thomson, Sanitary Inspector.

The general level of health of the Burgh remained satisfactory.

Housing 19 houses were completed during 1949, the total number of houses now provided by the Council being 128, including 20 temporaries. At 31/12/49 a further 15 houses were under construction.

Water Supply. The water supply continues to be of excellent quality and ample in quantity

Drainage. The sewage disposal systems continue to function as satisfactorily as possible, but renewal is now long overdue

Cleansing. Scavenging and collection of refuse have been carried out in an efficient manner. The old coup at Acrelands was closed during 1948 and a new coup started on the Thornhill Road.

Miscellaneous. There are 10 factories in the Burgh, all of which are non-mechanical. Each factory was inspected 4 times during the year, when they were found to be in a satisfactory condition. The two burial grounds, one outwith the Burgh, are well kept. There are no slaughterhouses, offensive trades, or common lodging houses in the Burgh.

COUPAR ANGUS

Mr. G.D. Oliphant, Sanitary Inspector.

The general level of health in the Burgh remained satisfactory.

Housing. 23 houses were completed during 1948, and 19 during 1949, the total number of houses provided by the Council now being 139. At 31/12/49, 16 houses were in course of erection.

Water Supply. The position is unchanged. The supply is derived from two burns, much of the collecting ground being under cultivation and liable to pollution. The water is unfiltered and dependent on chlorination for safety. Samples, however, show that chlorination is being satisfactorily carried out. Shortage was experienced following the prolonged dry spell during the late summer of 1949.

Drainage. The sewage works are working efficiently and the effluent is satisfactory.

Cleansing. The service has been improved with the delivery of a new vehicle during 1949, and the provision of a new Cleansing Depot. The new coup at Hillfoot was maintained in a satisfactory manner.

Factories. There are 22 factories in the Burgh, of which 18 are mechanical. 12 visits were made and one defect notice issued during 1948; 14 visits were made in 1949. The factories are in general satisfactory

General. The burial ground is well kept. There are no offensive trades, slaughterhouses, or common lodging houses in the Burgh. There is one house let in lodgings, and this is well kept. The number of complaints received was, 1948 - 14; 1949 - 11. These related mainly to W.C's used by more than one family. The number of routine inspections was, 1948 - 63; 1949 - 35, mainly concerned with minor nuisances.

CRIEFF

Mr. C Rankin, Sanitary Inspector.

The general level of health of the Burgh continued to be satisfactory

Housing 34 houses were completed during 1948, and 23 during 1949, the total number of houses now provided by the Council being 306. At 31/12/49, a further 24 houses were under construction.

Water Supply. This is ample in quantity and of excellent quality.

Drainage. The main sewer over the bridge appears to be fully taxed at times, and with expected additional volume additional carrying capacity will be necessary soon. The sewage works are very efficient, and are working within capacity.

Cleansing. The usual collections were maintained. The coup was kept in good condition.

Offensive Trades. There are none. Considerable improvements have been carried out at the slaughterhouse, the former separate booths being connected together, with overhead runways

and weighing machine. The lay-out is now very much improved. The slaughterhouse is well kept.

Burial Grounds. The three burial grounds have been well kept. Only one is now in use.

Factories. The 49 factories in the Burgh were inspected and found in satisfactory condition.

DOUNE

Mr. A.J. Low, Sanitary Inspector.

The general health of the Burgh remained satisfactory.

Housing. 10 Cruden houses were completed during 1948, the total number of council houses now being 62.

Water Supply. This shows an improvement following systematic scouring.

Drainage. The sewers and works are in good order and continue to function efficiently.

Cleansing. This continues to be satisfactory, refuse being removed by private contractor to the coup at Westerton.

Factories. There are 15 factories in the Burgh and at routine visits these have been found to be well kept.

General. A number of trivial nuisances were dealt with. The two piggeries in the Burgh have now been closed. Of the two burial grounds, the one in the Burgh is now seldom used. Both are well kept.

DUNBLANE

Mr. B.J. McKay, Sanitary Inspector.

The general health of the Burgh remained satisfactory.

Housing. 32 houses were completed during 1948, and 14 during 1949, the total number of Council houses now being 195. No houses were under construction at 31/12/49.

Water Supply. This is ample in quantity and satisfactory in quality. The consumption per head, at 106 gallons per day, remains abnormally high in spite of the elimination of a large number of leakage points.

From July 1949 onwards a supply from the reservoir has been pumped over the hill to Clackmannan County.

Drainage. Repairs to the sewage works were carried out in 1948, and gave a greatly improved effluent.

Cleansing. This continues to be satisfactory, although the placing of refuse receptacles on the footpaths gives rise to difficulties in windy weather. The coup at Barbush has been efficiently maintained.

Offensive Trades. There are none. The slaughterhouse has been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Factories. There are 15 factories in the Burgh, and on inspection these were found to be reasonably satisfactory.

Schools. The trough closets at the Public School have now been replaced by modern conveniences.

KINROSS

Mr. J. Stedman, Sanitary Inspector.

The general health of the Burgh has remained satisfactory.

Housing. 10 houses were completed during 1949, the total number of Council houses now being 116. At 31/12/49 a further 18 houses were in course of erection.

Much of the low part of the Burgh consists of rather old property, and, in spite of energetic pre-war measures, there are still many sub-standard houses in use.

Water Supply. The main supply is derived from springs in the Cleish Hills, led into catch tanks and thereafter to the main reservoir. An auxiliary supply is available from a well on the Burgh outskirts, and this is used as necessary to augment the main supply. Both sources are satisfactory.

Drainage. There are two sewage disposal works. The high level works consist of a sedimentation chamber and two filters, one rotary and one fixed. The channels of the latter have deteriorated and renewals are awaited. The low level works consist of tanks only, and are affected by flooding from Loch Leven, but in spite of this, no nuisance is caused by the effluent which is carried well out into the Loch.

Cleansing. This service is satisfactory.

Factories. There are 31 factories in the Burgh, of which 22 are mechanical. Minor defects, mainly relating to conveniences, were noted at inspections and subsequently remedied.

General. The burial grounds are kept in good condition. 24 miscellaneous complaints were investigated and necessary action taken satisfactorily.

PITLOCHRY

Mr. M. Coupland, Sanitary Inspector.

Housing. 25 Arcon temporary houses were completed during 1948, the total number of Council houses now being 88. At 31/12/49, 14 houses were under construction.

Water Supply. The supply is ample, although during 1949 the temporary requirements of the Hydro Electric Camp at Port-na-Craig were met with difficulty. The quality is satisfactory.

Drainage. During 1949, one of the filter beds at the sewage works was reconstructed, and the other 2 filters repaired. The works are now functioning satisfactorily. The drainage arrangements for the small group of houses on the southern side of the Burgh are not satisfactory. The position is difficult because of the nature of the site, and uncertainty about future developments in the area.

Cleansing. This is satisfactory, but the coup at Aldour which has been in use for approximately 50 years is very nearly full up, and refuse disposal is likely to prove a difficult matter very soon.

Offensive Trades. There are none. The slaughterhouse remains as detailed in the Report for 1947.

Conveniences. No improvements have been made to the men's convenience which is not in a very satisfactory condition.

Factories. There are 29 factories, 14 being mechanical. These were found in reasonably satisfactory condition.

Burial Grounds. These have been well kept. No progress has been made with regard to the proposed extension of the cemetery.

APPENDIX I

DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE

Summary of Work done by District Nurses during the year, 1949

District	Cases Nursed		Nursing Visits	Ante- Natal Visits	Child Welfare Visits	Tuber- culosis Visits	School In- spections and Visits
	General	Maternity					
Aberdalgie	96	5	729	160	261	28	82
Aberfeldy	167	5	2,400	63	845	58	76
Aberfoyle	96	4	1,453	83	528	42	120
Abernethy	136	19	1,971	39	276	4	20
Almondbank	152	17	2,223	81	510	12	37
Alyth	122	17	3,207	302	1,546	21	141
Auchterarder	140	18	2,838	172	1,182	134	66
Auchtergaven	202	11	1,700	104	481	2	54
Balquhider	144	1	1,894	9	195	88	28
Birmam/Dunkeld	136	18	1,445	125	1,093	35	114
Blackford	-	-	-	-	104	-	47
Blairgowrie/ Ratray	137	56	3,048	326	2,209	100	270
Braco	169	11	1,820	53	485	9	95
Braes of Carse	22	2	263	14	138	6	20
Callander	104	11	1,717	78	571	11	61
Comrie	246	12	2,508	135	1,029	40	110
Coupar Angus	93	19	1,699	159	1,194	113	86
Crianlarich	4	-	17	1	18	-	2
Crieff	585	44	7,320	292	1,858	67	51
Dunbarney	106	9	1,288	82	635	43	82
Dunblane	92	28	1,973	296	1,220	58	57
Dunning	67	10	1,937	63	350	9	71
East Carse	203	16	3,684	126	1,009	37	149
Errol	164	25	2,251	93	860	25	44
Fortingall	133	-	1,741	41	147	24	24
Fowls Wester	101	17	1,392	92	293	13	136
Glenfarg	98	14	1,024	72	362	12	74
Glenlyon	152	1	1,844	67	351	17	41
Kenmore	122	-	1,336	31	200	38	32
Killin	64	4	682	59	302	-	57
Logiealmond	11	2	133	2	20	-	2
Logierait	163	4	1,748	19	316	35	38
Methven	219	12	2,135	100	564	92	109
Muthill	188	8	2,083	132	645	6	80
Pitlochry	220	8	2,815	37	548	54	65
Rannoch & Foss	134	2	1,785	49	287	1	71
Scone	107	14	2,362	166	1,006	45	136
Stanley	81	17	1,202	91	1,144	32	79
St. Martins	113	16	1,453	128	1,031	33	70
Strathallan	167	15	1,256	110	421	-	39
Strathardle	248	13	2,490	106	400	13	46
Thornhill	92	11	1,565	71	466	-	106
Vale of Teith	238	15	3,753	461	1,244	74	153
West Carse	125	12	1,194	88	460	17	57
West Atholl	202	20	2,490	73	730	28	83
Fossoway	100	24	1,808	102	554	29	48
Kinross	69	39	2,436	261	776	87	162
Millnathort	144	35	3,426	253	1,035	85	108
TOTALS	6,574	661	93,538	5,467	31,899	1,677	3,699

APPENDIX II

LIST OF STAFF

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER	-	James Kelman, M.D., D.P.H.
DEPUTY COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER	-	Wm. H. Findlay, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (transferred to Regional Hospital Board 5/7/48)
ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS	-	James A. Sellar, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Elizabeth T. MacDougall, M.B., Ch.B.
SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER	-	James Smart, L.D.S. (resigned 31/8/49).
ASSISTANT DENTAL OFFICERS	-	Mrs. Mary G.W. Ferrier, L.D.S. (resigned 27/6/49). John K. Bowker, L.D.S. (resigned 21/1/48). Evelyn W. Sinclair, L.D.S. (resigned 16/1/48). D.M. Dick, L.D.S. (16/2/48 - 25/10/48). Mrs. Flora Kirkland, L.D.S. (26/5/48 - 17/7/48).
SUPERINTENDENT NURSING OFFICER	-	Elizabeth Chalmers, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.
SENIOR PHYSIOTHERAPIST	-	C.L. Birtill (1/12/47 - 31/5/48). A.C. Hampton (appointed 31/5/48).
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ACTING CHILDREN'S OFFICER	-	F.J. Earnshaw.
SANITARY DEPARTMENT:-		
CO-ORDINATION OFFICER	-	Geo. V. Hadden.
DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS:		
Eastern:	-	Thos. Kerr (resigned 2/7/49). George D. Oliphant (appointed 16/9/49).
Highland:	-	Mailler Coupland (resigned 4/7/48). Alistair Fraser (appointed 5/7/48).
Central:	-	Robert Normand (resigned 23/12/48).
Perth:	-	George V. Hadden.
Western:	-	A.J. Low.
Kinross:	-	T.G. Welburn (resigned 15/9/49). C.M. Stevenson (appointed 15/9/49).

COUNTIES of PERTH and KINROSS

REPORT

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY

CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTIES

for the year

1950

by

JAMES KELMAN, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH.

VITAL STATISTICS

1. General. The principal vital statistics for the year 1950 are shown below. The rates are after correction for transfers, and in the case of deaths, the rates after correction for age and sex are shown in brackets.

	Perth County	Kinross County	Combined County
(a) Population	88,800	7,620	96,420
(b) Total Births	1,353	127	1,480
Birth Rates	15.2	16.7	15.3
(c) Total Deaths	1,149	113	1,262
Death Rates	12.9 (10.4)	14.8 (12.1)	13.0 (10.5)
(d) Infantile Mortality Rate	25	54	27.7

2. Population. The estimated population of the Combined County shows a decrease of 2,016 over the 1949 figure.

3. Births. As anticipated, the birth rate for the Combined County, 15.3 per thousand of the population, again shows a fall. The figures for previous years were: 1946 - 18.9; 1947 - 18.8; 1948 - 17.1; and 1949 - 16.0. The figure for Scotland was 17.9, compared to 18.5 for 1949, 19.4 for 1948 and 22 for 1947, the latter being the highest rate recorded since 1923.

Birth Rates - 1911-1950

Years	Perth County	Kinross County	Combined County	Scotland
1911-15	19.7			25.4
1916-20	16.7			22.6
1921-25	16.2			22.6
1926-30	14.5			19.8
1931-35	14.3	15.7	14.4	18.2
1936-40	13.4	14.9	13.5	17.5
1941-45	14.5	16.5	14.6	18.2
1946-50	17.1	18.7	17.2	19.6

The above table shows in five yearly periods the fluctuations in the birth rate over the last forty years. The Perth County figures have run parallel with the Scottish figures, but always at a much lower level. The Kinross County figures are distinctly higher than the Perth County figures, but still below those for Scotland as a whole.

Usually the Burghs show a rate which is distinctly higher than the Landward area. This year the rates are the same, namely 15.6 per thousand.

The figures for illegitimate births during the year were: Perth County 7.2% (the same as last year); Kinross County 5.5% (8.7% last year); and Combined County, 6.9% (7.3% last year). The Kinross figures are usually distinctly lower than the Perth figures. The figure for Scotland was 5.2%.

The still birth rate (per thousand births including still births) was 21, slightly below last year's figure of 23. The figure for Scotland was 27, the same as last year.

4. Deaths The death rate for the Combined County was 10.5 per thousand of the population, compared to 10.3 for 1949 and 10.1 for 1948. The figure for Scotland was 12.4.

The table below shows the death rates over the last forty years, in five yearly periods.

Death Rates - 1911-1950

Years	Perth County	Kinross County	Combined County	Scotland
1911-15	13.8			15.7
1916-20	14.0			14.9
1921-25	12.3			13.8
1926-30	12.0			13.5
1931-35	11.3	12.0	11.3	13.2
1936-40	11.5	12.3	11.5	13.5
1941-45	11.3	11.5	11.3	13.6
1946-50	10.8	11.7	10.9	12.7

Of the 1262 deaths during 1950, 898 persons had attained the age of 65 years and upwards, giving a senile death rate of 71.1% of the deaths, compared to 69.7 in 1949, 69.3 in 1948 and 62.3 in 1947. 562 persons had attained the age of 75 years and upwards, 44.5 of the total deaths, and 149 persons had attained the age of 85 years and upwards, 11.8 of the total deaths.

Of the 898 persons who attained the age of 65 years and upwards, 410 (45%) were males and 488 (55%) were females. The corresponding figures for later ages were 75 years and upwards: males 253 (45%); females 309 (55%); and 85 years and upwards: males 49 (33%); females 100 (67%).

Heart Disease. Heart Disease caused 416 deaths, giving a rate of 4.31 per thousand of the population, compared to 4.42 in 1949 and 4.27 in 1948. 344 (83%) of the deaths occurred at age 65 years and upwards.

Cancer and other malignant conditions caused 194 deaths, giving a death rate of 2.01 per thousand compared to 2.03 in 1949. 125 (63%) of these deaths occurred at age 65 and upwards.

Cerebral Haemorrhage accounted for 203 deaths, giving a death rate of 2.1 per thousand of the population, compared to 1.95 in 1949. 171 (84%) of the deaths occurred at age 65 and upwards.

Tuberculosis caused 20 deaths, giving a rate of 0.20 per thousand of the population, compared to 0.25 in 1949, 0.34 in 1948 and 0.41 in 1947, the corresponding figures for Scotland being 0.54, 0.67, 0.76 and 0.80 per thousand for the years 1950, 1949, 1948 and 1947 respectively.

Of the 20 deaths, 15 were due to respiratory tuberculosis. This is the lowest figure so far recorded (0.15 per thousand). The 1950 figure for Scotland is 0.47 per thousand. The average number of deaths from respiratory tuberculosis in the area in five-yearly periods for the last twenty years was 1931-35 - 32; 1936-40 - 26; 1941-46 - 29; 1946-50 - 25, which suggests that the pre-war downward trend has been resumed.

There were 5 deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis (0.05 per thousand, Scotland 0.08 per thousand). The average number of deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis in five-yearly periods for the last twenty years was 1931-35 - 14; 1936-40 - 11; 1941-45 - 15; 1946-50 - 5, which also shows a satisfactory improvement.

Respiratory Disease (excluding pulmonary tuberculosis) accounted for 66 deaths, giving a death rate of .68 per thousand. Bronchitis caused 24 deaths, of which 21 occurred at age 65 years and upwards; pneumonia caused 38 deaths, of which 8 occurred at ages less than one year; and the other respiratory diseases caused 4 deaths.

Violent deaths numbered 63, of which 7 were due to suicide, 16 to road accidents and 40 to other forms of violence.

Maternal Mortality. There were 3 deaths from puerperal causes, giving a rate of 1.9 per thousand births. The average rate for the last five years was 1.6 per thousand births.

Infantile Mortality. There were 42 deaths at ages less than one year giving an infantile mortality rate of 27.7 per thousand births, which is only slightly higher than the record low figure of 25.7 for 1948. The figure for Scotland was 39, again a new low record. The table below shows the steady improvement which has occurred over the last forty years.

Infantile Mortality Rates - 1911-1950

Years	Perth County	Kinross County	Combined County	Scotland
1911-15	68			113
1916-20	65			100
1921-25	58			92
1926-30	58			86
1931-35	55	58	56	81
1936-40	57	59	57	76
1941-45	47	50	48	68
1946-50	32	40	34	47

Of the 42 deaths during the year, only 11 fell into the theoretically preventable group (whooping cough, 1; bronchitis, 1; pneumonia, 8; diarrhoea, 1). The other 31 deaths were due to the group of causes which includes congenital debility, prematurity and malformations, compared to 36 deaths from these causes in 1949.

There were 32 still births, giving a still birth rate (per thousand total births including still births) of 21 compared to an average rate of 24 for the last five years.

MEDICAL AND NURSING SERVICES

The general arrangements have remained unchanged, but as anticipated a number of Nursing Associations withdrew from the Agreement during the year and these districts are now being run directly by the County Council. The changes in boundaries made on a small scale last year have worked smoothly.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the following gifts made by Nursing Associations to the County Council during the year: Birnam/Dunkeld - car; Dunbarney - car and house furnishings; Collieston - house and contents; Coupar Angus - car; Glenfarg - car; Methven - car; Comrie - house furnishings and fully equipped clinic; and a number of Associations provided additional items of furnishings for Nurses houses.

Two County Council houses were made available for nurses during the year, and were fully furnished. The East Carse Association gifted £150 towards the cost of furnishing the house at Longforgan, and Stanley Association gifted £200 towards the cost of furnishing the house at Stanley. New cars were provided during the year for the following districts: Aberfoyle, Lomondbank, Alyth, Dunkeld, East Carse, Glenlyon, Methven.

The information given below is in the form called for by the Department of health for Scotland. All the nursing services are carried out by the District Nurses and the district figures are tabulated at the end of this Report.

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(a) Antenatal and postnatal clinics. No clinics are held in the County, but County patients attend at the clinics run by Perth Infirmary and Stirling Infirmary in these cities in conjunction with the local health authorities. During 1950, 687 cases from the Joint County received antenatal and/or postnatal care at the Perth Clinic, making approximately 1191 attendances. Figures for Stirling Infirmary are not available.

(b) Child Welfare Clinics. All the child welfare work in the County is carried out by the District Nurses as Health Visitors, but during 1950, 30 children from the area surrounding Perth City made 89 attendances at Perth City Clinics.

(c) Dental Care. The scheme for providing dental care for mothers and young children on a priority basis by arrangement with private dental practitioners came into operation early in the year. 10 expectant or nursing mothers were accepted for treatment during the year, and in 7 cases the treatment had been completed by the end of the year. 6 pre-school children were accepted and in 1 case the treatment was completed before the end of the year.

(d) Mother and Baby Homes. None are provided.

(e) Day Nurseries. None are provided.

(f) Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes. No progress was made during the year towards providing homes for this group, and during the year one child was accommodated in Westbank Nursery belonging to Perth City and a further forty-five were accommodated in a private nursery.

(g) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948. No applications have been received under this Act.

(h) Family Planning. Voluntary clinics are available at Perth and Stirling. These are largely self supporting, but both receive some assistance from the County Council.

During 1950, there were 134 attendances at the Perth Clinic, which includes both initial and second visits. The Stirling clinic opened in May, and attendance figures are not yet available. Advice is sought for various reasons, including infertility, medical reasons such as tuberculosis, bad housing, precarious circumstances and family spacing.

(i) Melville House, Perth. This organisation which is now largely supported by local authorities in the area, carries out much preventive work amongst mothers and children in the area, in close co-operation with the County Health and Children services. During the year ended 15/10/50, the House dealt with 47 County cases made up as follows: maternity cases 10, family cases 13, adoption cases 24.

2. Midwifery Service. 820 births occurred in the area during the year, of which 812 were live births and 8 were still births. Of the 820 births 249 took place in institutions, and 571 at home. All of these 571 births were attended by the District Nurses. In 318 of these cases a doctor had been engaged and was present at the confinement; in 239 cases a doctor had been engaged but was not present at the confinement; and in 14 cases the confinement was conducted by the District Nurse alone, no doctor having been engaged.

Gas and air analgesia had been introduced towards the end of 1949, and 13 District Nurses had been trained by the end of the year. All the remaining nurses received training during the year and sets of apparatus had been made available for every district. Nine cylinder depots

were set up throughout the County holding replacement stocks of gas. These are situated at Police Stations, Welfare Offices, Welfare Homes, etc. and the exchange system has worked satisfactorily. During the year 170 cases received gas and air analgesia.

21 cases received Pethidine analgesia under the new Rules which allow of administration of this drug by midwives.

3. Health Visiting. A total of 37,875 visits were paid by the District Nurses as Health Visitors. Of these, 4,435 visits were paid to expectant mothers, including 660 first visits; 13,786 visits were paid to children under the age of one year, including 1,570 first visits; 15,023 visits were paid to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years, including 464 first visits; and 1,845 visits were paid for advisory purposes to persons suffering from tuberculosis.

4. Home Nursing. A total of 83,571 home nursing visits were made by the District Nurses during the year to a total of 6,301 cases.

5. Domestic Help A formal scheme under the Act had not been adopted by the end of the year, but under the interim scheme assistance towards the cost of providing home help was given in 20 cases, one of which was on account of confinement; the others were all cases of elderly persons living alone.

6. Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination. The number of vaccinations notified during the year 1950 was 2,009, which included 1414 cases done between 27/3/50 and 21/4/50 during the Glasgow smallpox outbreak. The percentage of pre-school children vaccinated is not known, but information from routine school medical inspection shows that the position in this area is still relatively satisfactory. Of 5465 school children examined during the year ended 31/7/50, 79.1% were found to have been vaccinated. The percentages varied slightly between the groups: entrants 82.1%; 1940 group 78.9%; 1936 group 76.5% and 1933 group 84.4%.

Diphtheria Immunisation. During the year 1950, 914 children were notified as having received the two injections and 367 received a reinforcing dose.

As explained in previous reports, the level of immunisation in the community is regarded as the important factor, the aim being to secure a minimum of 75% immunisation amongst pre-school children, with "boosting" doses on entry to school. As a result of continual pressure by the District Nurses, at the end of the year the overall percentage of immunised children of ages 1 - 5 had reached the very satisfactory figure of 85%.

It is again gratifying to record that no confirmed cases of diphtheria occurred in this area during the year, the last cases having occurred in October 1947, and the last deaths in 1944.

Other Diseases. In the absence of a reliable vaccine against whooping cough, immunisation against this disease is not included in the Council's scheme although a number of general practitioners employ a combined diphtheria/whooping cough prophylactic with fair success.

7. Prevention of illness, Care and After-Care.

Tuberculosis. The preventive work in connection with tuberculosis is carried out on behalf of the County Council by the Area Tuberculosis Physician of the Regional Hospital Board, who is thus in a position to correlate prevention with treatment. The table below gives comparative figures dating back to pre-war years.

	Average 1931-35	Average 1936-40	Average 1941-45	Average 1946-50	1950
New confirmed cases:					
Respiratory	53	54	58	75	66
Non-Respiratory	54	57	53	27	15
Cases on list at 31st Dec.:					
Respiratory	145	164	166	255	297
Non-Respiratory	163	222	203	161	139
Number of cases receiving Institutional treatment	115	119	139	123	142
Deaths:-					
Respiratory	32	26	29	26	15
Non-Respiratory	14	11	15	5	5

New respiratory cases confirmed during the year were 66, showing a welcome drop from the 1949 figure of 84, and the 1946-50 average of 75, though still above the 1931-35 pre-war average of 53. This trend is not noticeable in the number of cases on the list, the figures at 31/12/50 being 297 as against 277 for 1949, and a pre-war average of 145, as the latest figures represent a carry-over of the higher incidence of the past few years. The deaths, however, confirm the downward trend, 15 for 1950 as against 21 for 1949 and 25 as the average for 1946-50, reflecting the earlier discovery of cases and the more effective methods of treatment.

Non-respiratory figures continue to show a fall, although the 5 deaths in 1950 show a slight increase compared to the previous two years.

As anticipated the efforts of the Regional Hospital Board to improve the bed position met with success, and 142 cases received hospital care during the year. 110 of the cases were suffering from respiratory tuberculosis.

During the year, 182 contacts of pulmonary cases were examined, an average of 2.8 contacts per confirmed case. This shows a considerable advance on the figures for the previous year, when the average was 1.1 contacts per case. The work of tracing and examining contacts takes up a considerable amount of time, but plays a very important part in the prevention of tuberculosis. 8 contacts of non-pulmonary cases were also examined during the year.

Under the scheme providing for B.C.G. vaccination, 25 persons, all under the age of 20 years, were tuberculin tested. Of these 10 were found to be tuberculin negative, and were successfully vaccinated with B.C.G. This represents only the small beginning of a scheme which it is anticipated will eventually cover a much wider section of the population, and which may yet become as essential a weapon in the successful prevention of tuberculosis as the Immunisation Scheme has proved to be in the case of Diphtheria.

During the year, extra nourishment grants were given in 17 cases, and as usual, sputum containers and disinfectants were supplied where required.

General. Care and after-care is provided mainly through the District Nursing Service. The Nursing Associations have always provided on loan nursing requisites such as bed-rests, air rings, etc. The stock carried by individual nurses has been augmented, and a central stock of items such as air beds not so frequently called for is being maintained at Headquarters for issue as required.

Cases requiring care or after-care are normally brought to notice by the family doctor, but an increasing number of cases are being reported by Hospital Almoners.

8. Infectious Disease. During the year 1950, the death rate per thousand of the population from the principal infectious diseases was 0.09 for the combined County, compared to an average of 0.09 for the previous five years.

The number of confirmed cases of infectious disease coming to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health, whether by notification or otherwise, is shown below:-

Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	Pneumonia, not otherwise notifiable	16
Diphtheria	-	Polio-myelitis, acute	12
Dysentery	16	Puerperal Fever	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	Puerperal Pyrexia	3
Erysipelas	8	Scarlet Fever	52
Malaria	-	Tuberculosis, pulmonary	66
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary	15
Pneumonia, acute influenzal	7	Typhoid Fever	-
Pneumonia, acute primary	22	Enteric Fever	-

Apart from influenza, the incidence of infectious disease remained at a low level. The number of cases of scarlet fever is only 52, the lowest figure ever recorded. No figures are available to show the incidence of influenza, but the increased number of pneumonia cases reflects the increased incidence of influenza in the early part of the year. There were twelve cases of poliomyelitis, a slightly higher figure than in the previous two years, but still much below the thirty cases experienced during the 1947 epidemic. From school figures the incidence of whooping cough and measles remained slight.

9. Venereal Diseases. The figures for patients from this area in attendance at the Clinics at Perth, Dundee and Stirling are shown below:-

	Perth	Dundee	Stirling	Totals
New Cases				
(a) Syphilis	10	2	8	20
(b) Gonorrhoea	8	1	9	18
(c) Other venereal conditions	18	9	5	32
Totals	36	12	22	70
(d) Non-venereal conditions	9	6	46	61

Of new cases, the figures for syphilis are about average and for gonorrhoea below average. The figures for other venereal and non-venereal conditions are about average.

10. Mental Health Service. During the year, 31 persons were admitted to hospital at the instance of the Authorised Officers. Of this number, 27 were admitted to the Hospital, Murthly, 1 to Murray Royal, Perth, and 3 to Stratheden Hospital, Fife.

There was a slight improvement in the accommodation position at Baldovan Institution, Dundee, the only Certified Institution for Mental Defectives in the Eastern Region and 4 defectives were admitted during the year.

Statutory supervision and aftercare continued to be carried out on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board in respect of persons suffering from mental illness and placed under guardianship, boarded out or discharged from hospital on probation, the number of cases dealt with being 9.

The boarding out under guardianship and statutory supervision of certified mental defectives is a local authority function and 6 cases were dealt with during the year.

By arrangement with the Eastern Regional Hospital Board a clinic has been set up at the City Medical Officer's office in Perth to which cases from the County and the Burgh can be referred for examination by a specialist in mental deficiency, and this arrangement has provided a very welcome improvement in the service available in the area.

11. Orthopaedic Scheme. Work under the Orthopaedic Scheme covers all pre-school and school children throughout the area including Perth City, being administered by the County Council on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board on an agency basis. A small number of adults are also dealt with, mainly cases in which supervision and treatment was continued after school age. A comprehensive service is provided, including regular Surgeon's clinics and treatment by the Physiotherapists in Perth and throughout the County area. Close contact is maintained with the Orthopaedic Unit at Bridge of Earn Hospital, the Orthopaedic Scheme functioning virtually as an extension of the work of the hospital.

	Pre-school		School Children	Adults		TOTAL
	City	County		City	County	
Attendances at Surgeon's Clinics	485	441	1232	81	114	2353
Cases under treatment	81	141	302	5	8	537
Cases under Observation	61	70	148	9	15	303
Number of Treatments	1108	1409	6020	83	105	8725
New cases during year	176	136	246	3	9	570
Discharges during year	9	15	163	4	8	199
Admissions:						
Bridge of Earn	6	7	40	-	-	53
Fairmilehead	-	-	-	-	-	-

12. Health Education. The usual short talks and demonstrations on Health Topics were given during the year by the District Nurses to women's organisations, mostly at W.R.I. meetings, the total number being 32 lectures and 10 demonstrations.

During the week commencing 27th February, 1950, the unit of the Scottish Council for Health Education visited the County. Meetings for School children were held at Grandtully, Alyth, Rhynd, Scone and Kinross. Adult meetings were held in the evenings at Aberfeldy, Alyth, Rhynd, Scone and Kinross. At Aberfeldy and Rhynd these were linked to the W.R.I., and were very successful, there being an audience of 200 at Aberfeldy and 75 at Rhynd. The attendances at the other three adult meetings were disappointing.

Extensive use was made of the Film Unit from the Scottish Office of Information during the year. Twenty meetings were held for various adult organisations, mainly W.R.I. meetings, at which Health Films were shown and a talk given by a member of the staff of the County Health Department. These meetings were very successful, a large percentage of the membership of the organisations concerned being present.

13. Registration of Nursing Homes. There are two private Nursing Homes registered in the area:-

- 1 at Crieff (Medical and Maternity)
- 1 at Aberfoyle (Medical only).

SCHOOL HEALTH

A separate report has been issued for the year ended 31st July, 1950.

During the year 1950, the school dental service was restarted and by the end of the year the complement of four dental officers was available.

The School Eye Service functioned satisfactorily, the arrangements for specialist examinations remaining as before, the specialist being supplied by the Regional Hospital Board but continuing to work in the Perth and District clinics. During the year the supply of glasses reverted to normal.

The routine work of medical inspection and follow-up of the School Nursing Service was carried out as in previous years. The negotiations with Perth City with regard to obtaining the services of the City Medical Staff for school work continued but by the end of the year agreement was in sight and it is hoped to bring the arrangement into operation during the year 1951.

The comprehensive scheme of improvements covering all the schools in the area proceeded satisfactorily, and in general the sanitary state of the schools in the area is good.

WELFARE SERVICE

Residential Accommodation. Admissions and discharges during the year to the County Council's Residential Homes were as follows:-

	Strathearn	Cuil-an-Daraich	Cottage Home
In residence at 31/12/49	27	22	8
Admissions during year	10	21	5
Discharges during year	12	20	6
In residence at 31/12/50	25	23	7

In the search for additional accommodation, 9 properties were inspected and reported upon but for various reasons none was found suitable.

The extensive improvements and redecoration at Strathearn Home have now been completed and these with the provision of new furniture have added greatly to the well-being and comfort of the patients. The installation of central heating at Cuil-an-Daraich is at present in progress and an extensive scheme of modernisation is under consideration.

Temporary accommodation was provided for 12 cases in Cuil-an-Daraich and 2 in Strathearn Home.

Supplementary payments to Voluntary Homes towards the cost of maintenance of persons belonging to the area were made as follows:-

Belmont Castle Eventide Home in respect of 4 cases,
 Hope Park Home, Blairgowrie, in respect of 11 cases,
 Mailer Home of Rest, Auchterarder, in respect of 6 cases,
 Orphan Homes of Scotland (Epileptic) in respect of 1 case,
 Inglewood Home, Alloa, in respect of 1 case,
 Thomas Burns Home for Blind Women in respect of 1 case,
 Oswald House Eventide Home for Blind Women, Edinburgh, in respect of 1 case.

Hospital Cases. The provision of hospital accommodation on behalf of the Eastern Regional Hospital Board for chronic sick cases continues at Strathearn Home and Cuil-an-Daraich, an arrangement which has proved satisfactory to all concerned, including the patients, the majority of whom are elderly chronic sick cases, and who appreciate the homely atmosphere which prevails in the Homes. At Strathearn Home the improvements including the redecoration and re-equipping of the Hospital Wards have been completed, resulting in a brightness hitherto lacking and added comfort for the patients.

Admissions and discharges during the year were as follows:-

	Strathearn	Cuil-an-Daraich
In sick beds on 31/12/49	39	15
Admissions during year	20	19
Discharges and deaths during year	29	17
In sick beds on 31/12/50	30	17

Welfare Services to Handicapped Persons. The County Council under Section 29 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, have the duty of promoting the welfare of handicapped persons who are blind, deaf and dumb or who are substantially and permanently handicapped physically and mentally.

An agreement has been entered into with the Society for Teaching the Blind to Read in the County and City of Perth for the carrying out of the Council's duties under the Act in respect of blind persons and partially sighted persons. In addition to arranging for the examination by an ophthalmic surgeon of persons claiming to be blind and the maintenance of a Register of Blind Persons the Society employ Home Teachers. The duties of the Home Teachers include the visitation of blind persons in their own homes, teaching suitable cases to read embossed literature and instructing them in suitable pastimes and occupations and in other methods of overcoming the effects of their disabilities, also generally assisting them in promoting their welfare by advising them of the social and other services available to them, by organising social centres, classes, etc. and providing and maintaining wireless sets where necessary.

The Society in co-operation with the County Council arranges for the training and employment of suitable blind persons in special workshops and, for those desirous of doing so, assisting them to engage in work in their own homes.

In consultation with the Ministry of Labour endeavours are made in appropriate cases to ensure that suitable work is found for blind persons in open industry.

In January the Eastern Regional Orthopaedic Council opened a training home for severely physically handicapped young women at Anton House, Broughty Ferry, the aim being to link the training to work in factories and concerns in the open market, thereby enabling the girls to take their place in industry without having to compete with the able-bodied. Training is given in dressmaking, sewing and knitting and there is a clerical class for those wishing to learn shorthand and typing. Bearing in mind that only severe cases are admitted, it is surprising to see the quality of the work and the variety of articles these girls are able to produce. During the year 4 cases were admitted to the Home, the County Council being responsible for their maintenance.

One lad was admitted to the Derwen Cripples Training College, Oswestry, for a course of training in bootmaking and repairing.

Removal of Persons in urgent need of care. There were no cases necessitating the use of the compulsory powers of removal during the year.

Care of Property of Persons admitted to Hospital, etc. In the course of the year arrangements were made for the protection of moveable property of 1 new case. At the end of the year such protection was being afforded to 1 case.

Burial or Cremation of the Dead. 13 cases were dealt with under this heading during the year.

Registration of Old People's Homes. Four Homes for Old People were registered during the year.

CHILDREN

During the year it was learned that the lease of Rossie House, Forgardenny, would not be extended beyond 31st December, 1950. This house was originally used as an Evacuation Hostel during the war years and had been carried on by the Public Assistance Committee until it was taken over by the Children Committee on 5th July, 1948. Alternative accommodation proved difficult to secure, but towards the end of the year Kippen House, Dunning, was purchased for use as a Children's Home. In the time available very little adaptation work was possible so that when the children and staff removed there during December the best had to be made of the facilities available. The fact that the children settled down in their new surroundings without any trouble and that the Christmas Party took place as usual on Christmas Day in the Ballroom at Kippen is a tribute to the Matron and staff for the conscientious way in which they set about their difficult task. Kippen House can accommodate thirty-two children and when some further adaptations and improvements are carried out will provide a very comfortable home.

No provision has yet been made for a nursery for pre-school children and it was necessary to make extensive use of a private nursery during the year.

The Adoption of Children Act, 1949 came into operation on 1st January, 1950. Under this Act no Adoption Order could be granted unless the prospective adopters had notified the County Council at least three months before-hand of their intention to apply for an Order. Although this Act was repealed by the Adoption Act, 1950, which became operative on 1st October, the provision for notification was continued. During the intervening period between the date of notification and the date of the Adoption Order, the Local Authority is responsible for supervision. Thirty-eight notifications were received during the year. Whilst on the subject of adoption it is pleasant to note that one child who was in the care of the County Council was legally adopted during the year. During the year the Scottish Home Department suggested in a circular to Local Authorities that they should consider appointing an existing official with a view to co-ordinating the various services, statutory and voluntary, concerned with the welfare of children in their own homes. The Children Committee delegated the duty to the County Medical Officer and it is intended to discuss with representatives from the various services and voluntary bodies the method of providing for the necessary co-ordination.

During the year eight children were placed in the care of foster parents and the following table shows the number of children in the care of the County Council as at 31/12/50, together with the number of applications dealt with during the year.

	Children in care under Children Act 1948	Children committed under the 1937 Act	Total	New Appli- cations during year	Dis- charges during year
1. Children boarded out -					
(a) with relatives	17	-	17	5	3
(b) with foster-parents	15	2	17	4	5
2. Children's House	32	1	33	40	33
3. Children in other Local Authority Homes: -					
Westbank Nursery	-	-	-	1	2
4. Children in Voluntary Homes					
Moy Park Nursery	20	-	20	45	33
The Orphanage, Aberlour	-	-	-	-	1
Dr. Barnardo's Homes	3	-	3	-	-
Orphan Homes of Scotland	1	-	1	-	-
Wellshill Girls' School	2	-	2	3	2
Training Home for Girls, Dundee	2	-	2	-	-
Levenhall Home, Musselburgh	2	-	2	2	-
St. Vincent's Refuge, Dundee	3	-	3	3	-
Renfrew Training Home, Glasgow	1	-	1	1	-
5. Children over school age under supervision	9	-	9	-	-
	107	3	110	104	79

FOOD SUPPLY

1. Food and Drugs.

Sampling. The number of samples taken and submitted for analysis during the year, 411, was about the average.

Of these 379 were informal samples, comprising 93 samples of milk (22 non-genuine), 73 of cream (14 non-genuine), 51 miscellaneous foodstuffs, 28 medicinal preparations, 22 tinned foods (1 non-genuine), 12 meat paste, 7 aerated waters, 6 each jams and jellies, and sweet spirits of nitre (3 non-genuine), 5 each of baking soda (1 non-genuine), cream of tartar, vinegar, white pepper, ground coffee, and whisky, 4 each of puddings and coffee essence, 3 each of sausages (1 non-genuine), baking powder, mustard and fish paste, 2 each of mince (both non-genuine), lard, mixed spice, table jellies, ground pepper, sauces, and pickles, and gin, 1 each of margarine, tea, curry powder, cocoa, black pepper and olive oil, and 11 of fertilisers and seedling stuffs (6 non-genuine).

32 formal samples were taken as against 4 for the previous year, 19 of milk (1 non-genuine), 4 of mince (1 non-genuine), 4 of sausages (1 non-genuine), 2 of butter, 1 of cheese and 1 of whisky. In the case of the non-genuine sample of milk, no case was taken against the dairyman concerned, but he was given a warning. The butcher concerned with the unsatisfactory sample of mince was fined £4 and in the case of the non-genuine sample of sausages, this was dropped by Procurator Fiscal in view of the fact that the inspector taking the sample was not at the time appointed as a Sampling Officer by the Local Authority.

The average quality of the milk supply based on the samples submitted during the year, remained satisfactory, showing total solids 12.51%, made up of milk fat 3.80% and non-fatty solids 8.71%.

Unsound Food During the year 4 tons 25 lbs. 4 oz. of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. The foodstuffs concerned included the usual variety of tinned foods, meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, etc. and fresh fruit and carcase meat.

Meat Inspection. Details of the animals slaughtered and the condemnations made are shown in the Table for the individual slaughterhouses in the County.

Year 1950	Class of Animals	Number of Animals		Weight (in lbs.) of condemned meat and offals
		Slaughtered	Wholly condemned	
Aberfeldy	Cattle	293	9	4455
	Sheep	2084	7	216
	Pigs	6	-	-
	Calves	79	-	-
Pitlochry	Cattle	461	5	4416
	Sheep	2411	-	48
	Pigs	21	-	-
	Calves	17	-	-
Blairgowrie	Cattle	1257	38	28696
	Sheep	6881	48	3662
	Pigs	621	6	2095
	Calves	260	2	425
Crieff	Cattle	884	13	4379
	Sheep	4958	9	401
	Pigs	36	-	-
	Calves	200	-	-
Dunblane	Cattle	701	18	12901
	Sheep	3255	24	944
	Pigs	19	-	11
	Calves	25	3	243
Milnathort	Pigs	3425	1	Heads 170, plucks 29, livers 49.

2. **Milk and Dairies.** 28 new applications were registered during the year 1950 and 25 registrations lapsed for various reasons. The total number of dairy registrations in the Combined County at 31/12/50 was 339 (an increase of 3), comprising 258 in Perth County, 57 in Kinross County and 24 in the various Burghs. Of these 210 were registered as producers only, 91 as producer/retailers and 38 as retailers only. There were no wholesale dealers only.

The average number of cows per dairy herd was 29.3 at 31/12/50, compared to 30.3 at 31/12/49 and 29 and 26.6 respectively at the end of the years 1948 and 1947.

Of the 301 producers at 31/12/50, 191 held designated licences, an increase of 24 over the previous year; certified 18 (the same number as last year), tuberculin tested 168 (an increase of 30); and standard 5 (a decrease of 6). The number of pasteurising plants remained at 2.

The results of milk sampling are shown in the following tables:-

Designation	No. of farms	No. of samples	Number of farms where the bacterial count was			Number of farms the milk from which showed presence of Coliform Bacilli	
			Consistently up to standard	Not up to standard		on one occasion	on two or more occasions
				on one occasion	on two or more occasions		
Certified	17	121	9	5	1	4	1
Tuberculin Tested	179	1073	131	30	9	29	15
Standard	6	35	3	2	-	1	-
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	2	48	-	1	1	1	1
Totals	204	1277	143	38	11	35	17

Methylene Blue (Hiscox) Test - (Ordinary
Producer/Retailers)

Number of Farms	Number of Samples	Number of farms consistently up to standard	Number of farms where Hiscox failed	
			on one occasion	on two or more occasions
65	116	57	5	2

Generally dairymen have been found to comply with the prescribed conditions and no licences were refused, suspended or revoked during the year.

3. Ice Cream. During the year 20 additional registrations were approved under the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948. Of these five were for manufacture, storage and sale, eight were for storage and sale, four for sale only and three vehicles were registered (one for storage and sale and two for sale only).

The number of removals from the Register was three (two for storage and sale and one for sale only) and at 31st December, 1950, the total number of registrations was 124, comprising 39 for manufacture, storage and sale, 69 for storage and sale, 10 for sale only and 6 vehicles (4 for storage and sale and 2 for sale only).

During the year 64 samples were taken for analysis. Of these 51 were found to be genuine and 13 were found to be below the prescribed standard of 2.5% fat. 6 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and all of these complied with the suggested standard.

4. Clean Food. No new measures were taken during the year to ensure the hygienic handling of foodstuffs by food traders, manufacturers and their employees, but attention was directed to this matter at routine inspections under the Factories Acts and at inspections in connection with alterations or additions to premises. Clean food is one of the subjects usually dealt with in Health Talks, of which details are given earlier in this report.

5. Nutrition. No change was apparent during the year under review.

PERTH COUNTY

Report to Perth County Council on the non-transferred functions.

Mr A.L. Riddell, County Sanitary Inspector.

1. Housing. The total number of houses erected by Perth County Council up to the end of 1949 was 1067. During the year 1950 a further 198 houses were completed and occupied. At the end of 1950, a further 284 houses were in course of construction.

Building Byelaws. 381 applications were dealt with under the Byelaws. Of these 283 were in respect of additions, alterations, etc. to individual existing houses, erection of school conveniences, garages, etc., and 98 applications were in respect of 405 new houses. Of the 405 new houses, 269 were houses to be built by the County Council (6 of 2 apts., 133 of 3 apts., 101 of 4 apts. and 4 of 5 apts.); 128 were houses to be built by private enterprise (1 of 2 apts., 28 of 3 apts., 82 of 4 apts., 13 of 5 apts., 3 of 6 apts. and 1 of 7 apts.) and 8 were houses to be built under the Housing (Agricultural Population), (Scotland) Act, 1938 (6 of 3 apts. and 2 of 4 apts.).

Housing (Rural Workers) (Scotland) Acts. 2 Certificates 'B' were issued in respect of 2 houses. There still remains 7 houses where work under schemes under the above Acts has still to be completed.

Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act, 1938. One Certificate 'A' was issued in respect of 2 houses and 3 Certificates 'B' were issued in respect of 3 houses.

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1949 Out of the figure of 283 for alterations and improvements, etc. 37 of these applications were the subject of grant under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1949, and out of this number, 23 were approved.

Control of Civil Building. The total number of applications dealt with during the year was 411.

Housing of Seasonal Workers. The inspection of seasonal workers' accommodation is mainly concentrated in the Eastern District, and an annual visit is paid by a small sub-committee to the berryfields during the picking season. In general, the Byelaws are fairly well observed, and there is a slow but steady improvement in the standard of the premises provided.

Tents, Vans and Sheds. During the year, 154 inspections were made under this heading. In the County as a whole, the tinkers population is not large, nor do they as a rule remain longer in one place than the period of 48 hours permitted in the Byelaws without registration. In some few cases, however, exceptions are made where illness or other circumstances arise which necessitate a longer stay. Such few cases where more or less permanent camps exist are usually found where farmers employ tinkers for winter work about farms. The provisions of the Byelaws regarding water supply, sanitation etc. are in such cases rigidly enforced, and little trouble is experienced.

The growing popularity of the trailer caravan, however, is a problem which may present some difficulties. Most of these holiday-makers are, however, only present in one place for a night or two, and there are for those who remain for longer periods, a fair number of farmers who let ground for this purpose. In these cases, inspections are made, and any infringements of the Byelaws checked.

Several organised camps by Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, etc. were inspected, and in all cases these were, as might be expected, found to be well organised and properly supervised.

2 Water Supplies. Although little progress was made in 1950 on the Regional Water Schemes the Council's policy of extension of their existing supplies into rural areas wherever possible and practicable was continued. A few new supplies were developed for villages outwith the Regional network. During the year the extension of the Carse mains from Errol to Glencarse was completed and a further extension to St. Madoes begun. The Kincardine area - Frews - Thornhill scheme was completed. A new water supply was commenced for Kinloch Rannoch from the Allt Mhor. A new supply was provided for Acharn village. The existing Dunkeld Regional Supply at Airmtully was extended to Murthly village; the Aberuthven Supply to Drumtoyle, and an extension was made from the Crieff Burgh mains to feed the Tomaknock area and the farms adjoining. During the year, the large bore trunk mains were being brought forward and stored in readiness for the Turret Regional supply.

Minor extensions were made at Balbeggie (Bush Farm, etc.), Comrie (Cowdens Farm) and at St. Fillans (Station Road) and Burrelton (Whitelea Road) for private housing development. Council housing schemes necessitated extensions at Scone (Goshenbank), New Alyth, Blackford, Bridge of Tilt, Forgandenny, Longforan, Meigle, Stanley, Almondbank and Gartmore. A new supply was installed at Port of Menteith to allow housing to proceed there ahead of the Regional Scheme. Obsolete mains were removed and new mains laid at Comrie (Dalchalla), Stanley (Mill Street-Charlotte Street), Longforan (Bye-pass), and Dunkeld (The Square).

Schemes of water supply were prepared and materials ordered for Lethendy-Spittalfield area, Fearnan village, Kindallachan village, an extension to the Balbeggie area by use of a proposed new intake at Fairygreen and an extension of the Scone supply to the proposed Black Watch Depot there.

During the year 402 further houses were connected to County mains and extension was made to the undernoted fittings, 609 new sinks, 342 washhand basins, 370 water closets, 222 baths, 328 cisterns, 156 miscellaneous taps, 47 field troughs and 180 drinking bowls - a total of 2254 connections.

Reduction of waste was continued and almost kept pace with the increased usage. Little progress, however, was made in the elimination of Street Wells.

The various public water supplies in the County were efficiently maintained.

3 Drainage

General. In the past the one problem common to all districts has been the disposal of sludge. During the year under review a vacuum tank waggon has been purchased which will enable sludge to be collected and disposed wherever convenient. It is hoped, however, to use the sludge as a generator for the manufacture of compost so that some return can be made to the land of this valuable product. Some slight alterations and construction of sludge wells are required at various sewage treatment works throughout the County to enable the Vacuum Tank Waggon to carry out the sludge removal. So far the alteration and construction of sludge well has been completed at Glenfarg Sewage Treatment Works.

Two new sewage systems were brought into operation at the villages of Thornhill and Luncarty.

The existing sewage systems in the County were maintained in fair working order. Glenfarg Sewage Treatment Works received a major overhaul and a radical alteration was made in the construction of the sedimentation tanks which has proved extremely satisfactory with these

Works now producing an effluent as clear as any in the County.

Part of a sewage scheme for Wolfhill was constructed with a temporary septic tank for a housing development.

Thornhill. A new sewage system has been constructed in this village which affords drainage to existing properties and any reasonable future development. Sewage treatment is afforded by tanks and two circular filter beds. The effluent discharges into the Boquhapple Burn which affords a narrow margin of dilution and a high standard of treatment will have to be maintained at these Works. Provision has been made for the vacuum tank waggon to remove sludge from the tanks.

Luncarty. This village has now been provided with a new sewage system which provides drainage for all existing residential properties and allows for future development. Sewage treatment is provided by tanks only with the effluent discharging into the River Tay which affords entirely adequate dilution. Provision has been made for the vacuum tank waggon to remove sludge from the tanks.

Sampling. 7 sewage effluent samples were taken, 2 of which were under standard

4. Scavenging. There are 26 Special Scavenging Districts within the County. This number included the Carse, Eastern, Perth No. 1 and Perth No. 2 Regional Scavenging Schemes where the collection of refuse is carried out by vehicles and personnel which are under the control of the County Council. In all the other 22 districts the work is done by contract, the contractors being local farmers or tradesmen, or in some few cases, the work is done by contract with the Town Council of an adjacent Burgh.

571 inspections in connection with scavenging districts were made during the year.

Salvage. During the year the amount of waste paper salvage collected was 21 tons 8 cwts. valued at £85:12/-.

5. Burial Grounds. The burial grounds throughout the County have been adequately maintained.

6. Factories Act, 1937. At 31st December, 1950 there were in the County 209 mechanical and 42 non-mechanical factories. In addition 9 building sites were dealt with under section 7. During the year, 365 inspections were made. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

7. Offensive Trades. There are no offensive trades operating in the landward part of the County.

8. Rats and Mice Destruction. On 1st April, 1950 the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 came into force. By this enactment, the responsibility for dealing with infestations of rats and mice was transferred wholly to Local Authorities. Since Perth County Council have had whole time trained rat trappers on their staff since 1945, this change over was carried out with no trouble.

Any complaints of infestations by rats or mice are investigated by members of the sanitary staff, who made 69 inspections in this connection, or by the foremen rat trappers.

If further action is found necessary, arrangements are usually made for one or other of the rat destruction squads to deal with the matter, or, as sometimes happens, the owner may hire private trappers or carry out disinfection himself. Many infestations are dealt with directly by the squads in the course of their normal work.

During 1950, 363 premises were dealt with on account of rat infestation, and as a result, 26,535 rats were destroyed by trapping, poisoning or gassing.

Mole destruction was carried out on 5 occasions and 76 mice were also killed.

The foremen submit weekly returns of work carried out, and these form the basis of reports to the appropriate Committee of the County Council, and from these reports information for the rendering of accounts for work done is extracted.

Survey work was carried out, as time permitted, and 418 premises were inspected. Of these, 338 were found to be clear of rats, 66 had light infestations, 7 had medium infestations and 7 heavy infestations. In all cases where rats were found, arrangements were completed for disinfection by County Council trappers or by private contract.

Refuse Coups are regularly inspected and infestations where found are promptly checked.

It has been found that owing to pressure of work, a progressive and systematic survey of the County cannot be readily undertaken, but since the foremen do devote any spare time which may arise due to extreme weather conditions to survey work, the County as a whole is pretty well under control.

In addition to reports made by the Sanitary Inspectors, much useful information is obtained from the Police Authorities and from the local Pest Control Officers of the Department of Agriculture.

A summary of the work carried out during 1950 is given below.

Description of Premises	Treated by Squads	Surveyed Degree of Infestation				
		Clear	Light	Medium	Heavy	Total
Farms	156	187	56	5	7	255
Refuse Dumps	66	3	-	1	-	4
Houses	56	134	9	1	-	144
Schools	17	1	-	-	-	1
Shops	18	7	-	-	-	7
Hospitals	7	-	-	-	-	-
Storage Depots	1	-	-	-	-	-
Cemeteries	4	-	-	-	-	-
Nurseries	4	-	-	-	-	-
Hotels	5	2	1	-	-	3
Kennels	2	-	-	-	-	-
Camps	13	-	-	-	-	-
Slaughterhouses	5	-	-	-	-	-
Public Buildings	5	2	-	-	-	2
Garages	1	1	-	-	-	1
Sewage Works	1	-	-	-	-	-
Factories	2	1	-	-	-	1
Totals	363	338	66	7	7	418

9. Disinfestations (apart from Rats and Mice). Under this heading comes the treatment of premises for insect infestations which may be very troublesome to the occupiers of the premises concerned.

Successful work was carried out by the sanitary staff on 30 occasions involving 119 visits of inspection.

In the cases involving hotels, the premises treated were all well run establishments, and there is no doubt that in the cases involving bug infestations, the insects had been carried in by guests. The infestations were, however, light and were successfully treated. Cockroaches in hotels are usually found in the kitchen premises. In one case only was the infestation heavy, and after the pests were cleared, the plasterwork round the cooking stoves was repaired by the owner. No further complaint has been made.

The case of lice infestation arose in a contractor's camp, and was caused by one affected worker. Early action was taken, and the outbreak was fortunately checked before it had progressed to any extent.

A summary of the work done is given below:-

Premises treated	Bugs	Fleas	Lice	Flies	Cock-roaches	Beetles	Ants	Wood worm	Total	Inspection made
Houses	2	4	-	2	4	1	1	4	18	73
Hotels	2	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	9	34
Farms	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	5
Bothies	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Camps	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Totals	4	5	1	3	11	1	1	4	30	119

In addition to the above infestations which might be termed the normal types, several appeals for assistance were made regarding the clearance of wasps' nests from attic spaces in houses. All the cases were successfully treated. In one instance the department was asked to clear an attic which was heavily infested by bats. This was done, and upwards of 500 bats were removed.

10. Nuisances. Inspections were made in 637 cases of alleged nuisances. These included 114 miscellaneous, 366 drainage, 148 water supplies, 1 stables and byres, 81 deposits of refuse, 1 overcrowding, 12 dirty houses and 3 burial grounds. It should be noted that the 3 latter complaints referred to the activities of moles and rabbits in burial grounds.

It was found necessary to serve one Statutory Notice during the year. This concerned the insanitary state of a piggery which, after some considerable trouble, was ultimately closed.

11 Street Lighting. There are 27 Special Lighting Districts in the County. The total number of lamps involved number 763, 704 being gas-filled, while 59 are mercury vapour lamps.

The systems, although they do not conform to the standards laid down by the Ministry of Transport, are considered adequate for the Special Districts, and are generally speaking much appreciated by the residents.

170 inspections were made in connection with the Special Lighting Districts.

12. Complaints. 250 complaints were received and dealt with. As is usual, a great number of these complaints were dealt with by the District Inspectors without having recourse to written intimations. A fair number of the total, as is quite usual, had their origin in neighbours' disagreements which call for tactful handling.

13. General. During the year, 6083 specific inspections were made by the Sanitary staff. These included all branches of the work, but many minor matters of little consequence dealt with by the District Inspectors on the spot are not included.

14. Our Whale. A "whale" was stranded on the mudbank opposite Burnside Farm near Longforan Station about midday on 25th July. The fact that the "whale" turned out to be a basking shark did not make the problem of its disposal any easier, since it was 22½ feet long, weighed about four tons, and was lying in a position to which access was very difficult.

It was late on the 25th before information reached the Department, and during the next day arrangements were made for its disposal on the day following. The first problem was access. The shark was lying, partly sunk in sticky semi-liquid mud, some 350 yards from the nearest ground from which it was possible to work. This was a hayfield, to which fortunately the access was good, but with a steep sloping bank down to the shore. Near the bank, the grass was firm, but further out the grassy surface was riddled with potholes of liquid mud, with a stretch of reed covered mud in front of the bare mudbank on which the shark was lying. At high tide the carcass was completely submerged.

In consultation with the Roads Department, it was decided to make a causeway of corrugated iron sheets across the mud to the carcass, and by means of an ex-army recovery vehicle operating from the hayfield, to try to drag the carcass by the tail right up on to the hayfield, there to be loaded on to a lorry for transport to the knacker. A squad of three men was put at our disposal by the Roads Department, and the recovery vehicle was obtained from a local garage.

The operation was carried out on 27th July. Because of the tide, a start could not be made till about 4 p.m., but by 4.30 p.m. the causeway had been laid. It was then possible to get a rope on the tail, and by 5 p.m. the carcass had started its slow journey ashore. Everything went well till it was half way up the bank, when suddenly the tail came off. It took nearly two hours to manoeuvre the carcass up the rest of the slope, but eventually this was achieved, the shark was lifted by the crane, and after some anxious moments, it was eased on to the waiting lorry. It had to be tailored to fit the lorry by hacking off some three feet of the tail, but by 9 p.m. everything was aboard, secured and ready for the road. Next day, the squad from the Roads Department replaced damaged fences, and the operation was complete.

KINROSS COUNTY

Report to the Kinross County Council on Non-Transferred functions in the County of Kinross

Mr. C.M. Stevenson, Sanitary Inspector.

1. Housing. At the end of the year 1949, the total number of houses erected by the County Council was 84. 12 houses were completed during the year, and at the end of the year a further 4 were under construction, with 20 allocated for 1951.

2. Water Supply. Milnathort continued to be satisfactory during the year. The negotiations to take over the private supply at Kinnesswood were concluded and improvements were under consideration. Supplies to other communities remain as previously.

3. Drainage. The Milnathort system functioned satisfactorily. The new works at Kinnesswood have been completed and are working efficiently. A scheme for Blairingone is being explored.

4. Cleansing. The Kinross County Scavenging Area came into operation on 15/5/50, covering most of the communities in the County. The coup at Perth Road is still in use and it is now possible to tip under proper control.

5. Offensive Trades. There are none. The only slaughterhouse, at Milnathort for pigs only, is well conducted.

6. Burial Grounds. The burial grounds throughout the County have been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

7. Factories. There are 24 mechanical and 19 non-mechanical factories on the register. 56 inspections were made and minor defects remedied.

8. General. 94 complaints were investigated and remedies procured where required.

The general health of the County remained at a satisfactory level.

APPENDIX I

Vital Statistics

Details according to local areas

	Population 30/6/50	Births	Birth Rate	Deaths	Death Rate*
<u>Perth County</u>	88,800	1,353	15.2	1,149	12.9
Landward	61,437	979	15.2	739	12.0
Aberfeldy	1,554	29	18.6	19	11.5
Abermethy	667	7	10.5	8	12.0
Alyth	1,394	22	14.0	43	21.6
Auchterarder	2,356	35	14.9	29	12.3
Blairgowrie	5,226	85	16.3	94	18.0
Callander	1,593	25	15.7	27	16.9
Coupar Angus	2,191	35	16.0	40	18.2
Crief	5,317	66	11.7	57	10.2
Dune	873	10	11.5	16	18.3
Dunblane	2,085	39	13.5	48	16.6
Pitlochry	2,703	55	11.1	30	6.2
<u>Kinross County</u>	7,220	127	16.7	113	14.8
Landward	4,839	25	17.2	71	14.4
Kinross Burgh	2,381	42	15.6	42	15.6
<u>Joint County</u>	96,420	1,480	15.3	1,262	13.0

* Death rates corrected for residence

APPENDIX II

DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE

Summary of Work done by District Nurses during the year 1950

District	Cases nursed		Nursing Visits	Ante- Natal Visits	Child Welfare Visits	Tuber- culosis Visits	School In- spections and Visits
	General	Maternity					
Aberfeldy	120	7	2158	46	896	53	65
Aberfoyle	73	13	1317	84	343	33	41
Abernethy	149	9	2159	43	312	5	18
Almondbank	160	7	2022	56	528	14	39
Alyth	139	14	4572	292	1556	56	344
Auchterarder	140	9	2686	73	889	45	56
Auchtergaven	275	21	2883	142	587	-	35
Balquhiddar	171	2	2306	22	173	41	33
Birnam/Dunkeld	129	19	1630	161	783	45	77
Blairgowrie	250	42	3169	260	2388	54	159
Braco	178	11	2531	101	536	10	73
Callander	137	17	1997	95	599	17	47
Comrie	213	13	2915	184	403	48	104
Coupar Angus	98	26	1279	136	1308	123	109
Crieff	564	41	6791	277	1873	68	61
Dunbarney	77	11	1267	113	804	37	99
Dunblane	122	14	1829	163	1017	101	71
Dunning	44	14	2660	90	501	6	67
East Carse	126	16	3151	137	1048	86	222
Errol	83	16	1327	97	747	59	36
Fortingall	106	-	1987	30	129	15	26
Fowlis Wester	83	10	1216	44	320	3	182
Glenfarg	119	9	1398	64	355	-	83
Glenlyon	155	1	1651	56	292	13	27
Kenmore	97	2	922	34	208	38	41
Killin	76	6	758	69	320	-	39
Logierait	136	11	1555	53	366	15	32
Methven	186	12	2131	122	702	229	101
Muthill	191	14	2264	78	488	-	49
Pitlochry	176	10	1802	44	474	38	100
Rannoch & Foss	180	1	2105	75	353	-	69
Scone	125	16	2599	219	1169	32	113
Stanley	192	20	2021	109	1169	55	116
St. Martin's	135	13	1595	75	1098	41	58
Strathallan	154	6	1170	29	384	-	39
Strathardle	176	14	1582	98	530	9	84
Thornhill	85	7	1256	73	406	6	101
Vale of Teith	205	18	3270	396	1128	261	106
West Carse	83	8	1314	93	387	17	54
West Atholl	192	14	1798	111	603	24	58
Fossoway	74	20	2104	85	494	36	45
Kinross	95	35	2598	246	1310	146	70
Milnathort	119	32	3299	320	867	58	81
	6301	601	93044	5095	30843	1937	3430

COUNTIES of PERTH and KINROSS

REPORT

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY

CONDITIONS of the COUNTIES

for the year

1951

and of

THE BURGHS OF

ABERNETHY, ABERFELDY, ALYTH, AUCHTERARDER, BLAIRGOWRIE-

RATTRAY, CALLANDER, COUPAR ANGUS, CRIEFF, DOUNE,

DUNBLANE, KINROSS and PITLOCHRY

for the YEARS 1950 and 1951

by

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VITAL STATISTICS

1. General. The principal vital statistics for the year 1951 are shown below. The rates are after correction for transfer, and in the case of deaths the rates after correction for age and sex are shown in brackets.

	Perth County	Kinross County	Combined County
(a) Population	88,447	7,484	95,931
(b) Total Births	1,271	113	1,384
Birth Rates	14.4	15.1	14.4
(c) Total Deaths	1,282	117	1,399
Death Rates	14.5 (11.7)	15.6 (12.8)	14.6 (11.8)
(d) Infantile Mortality Rate	33	44	34

2. Population. The population shown above for the year 1951 is the mid-year figure as estimated by the Registrar General which is used in the calculation of the various rates. The figures from the 1951 census taken on 8th April are shown in the table below with previous census figures for comparison. To complete the picture for the area the figures for Perth Burgh are also shown.

Year	Perth County	Kinross County	Combined County	Perth Burgh
1801	110,705	6,725	117,430	14,878
1811	117,142	7,245	124,387	17,245
1821	119,179	7,762	126,941	19,068
1831	122,150	9,072	131,222	20,016
1841	118,164	8,763	126,927	19,293
1851	113,850	8,924	122,914	24,670
1861	107,406	7,977	115,383	26,094
1871	101,391	7,198	108,589	26,377
1881	99,251	6,697	105,948	29,756
1891	95,435	6,280	101,715	30,749
1901	90,411	6,981	97,392	32,872
1911	88,360	7,527	95,887	35,982
1921	92,295	7,963	100,258	33,208
1931	85,733	7,454	93,187	35,060
1951	87,606	7,418	95,024	40,466

In the table below the 1951 census figures are broken down to show the population of the various burghs and the landward areas:-

<u>Perth County</u>			
Landward		59,941	
Small Burghs			
Aberfeldy	1,523		
Abernethy	675		
Alyth	2,072		
Auchterarder	2,434		
Blairgowrie	5,383		
Callander	1,727		
Coupar Angus	2,175		
Crieff	5,473		
Doune	834		
Dunblane	2,985		
Pitlochry	2,384		
		<u>27,665</u>	
			87,606
<u>Kinross County</u>			
Landward		4,923	
Kinross Burgh		2,495	
			<u>7,418</u>
			<u>95,024</u>

3. Births The birth rate per thousand of the population for the Combined County again shows a fall, the figure for the year 1951 being 14.4. The figures for previous years were 1946 - 18.9; 1947 - 18.8; 1948 - 17.1; 1949 - 16.0; 1950 - 15.6. The figure for Scotland was 17.7 compared to 17.9 for 1950, 18.5 for 1949, 19.4 for 1948 and 22.0 for 1947, the latter being the highest rate recorded since 1923.

Usually the birth rate in the Burghs is slightly higher than that for the Landward area. This holds good for this year, the rate for the Burghs being 15.2 as against 14.1 for last year.

The figures for illegitimate births during the year were:- Perth County, 6.4%; Kinross County, 4.4%; Combined County, 6.2%. These figures all show a slight fall from previous years. The figure for Scotland was 5.1.

The still birth rate (per thousand births including still births) was 31, the corresponding figure for Scotland being 27, the same as the last two years.

4. Deaths. The death rate for the Combined County was 11.8 per thousand of the population, compared to 10.5 for 1950, 10.3 for 1949, 10.1 for 1948 and 11.8 for 1947. The figure for Scotland was 12.9. The slight increase in the death rate compared to the two previous years is regarded as being a normal fluctuation, but on this occasion it was partly accounted for by the increased number of deaths from Influenza and/or Pneumonia occurring in the early part of the year.

Of the 1398 deaths during 1951, 1020 persons had attained the age of 65 and upwards, giving a senile death rate of 74.4% of the deaths, compared to 71.1% in 1950 and 69.7% in 1949. 649 persons had attained the age of 75 years and upwards (46.4% of the total deaths) and 193 persons had attained the age of 85 years and upwards (13.8% of the total deaths).

Of the 1020 persons who attained the age of 65 years and upwards, 445 (44%) were males and 575 (56%) were females. The corresponding figures for later ages were 75 years and upwards, males 267 (41%), females 382 (59%); 85 years and upwards, males 63 (33%), females 130 (67%). These figures are somewhat similar to those of previous years.

Heart Disease caused 517 deaths, giving a rate of 5.39 per thousand of the population. This shows a considerable advance on recent years, the average for the years 1946-50 being 4.44. 445 of the deaths (86%) occurred at the age of 65 years and upwards.

Cancer and other malignant conditions caused 220 deaths, giving a death rate of 2.29 per thousand compared to an average of 2.12 for the years 1946-50. 139 (63%) of these deaths occurred at the age of 65 and upwards, the same percentage as last year.

Cerebral Haemorrhage accounted for 204 deaths, giving a death rate of 2.13 per thousand, compared to an average of 1.93 for the years 1946-50. 169 (83%) of the deaths occurred at the age of 65 and upwards, almost the same as last year.

Tuberculosis caused 17 deaths, giving a rate of .18 per thousand of the population. This rate has been steadily falling, previous years being 0.41 for 1947, 0.34 for 1948, 0.25 for 1949 and 0.20 for 1950, the corresponding figures for Scotland being 0.80, 0.76, 0.67 and 0.54 per thousand for the years 1947-50 respectively.

Of the 17 deaths, 15 were due to respiratory tuberculosis, giving a rate of 0.16 per thousand, which is the same as last year and is the lowest figure so far recorded. The 1951 figure for Scotland is 0.37.

There were 2 deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis (0.01 per thousand, Scotland 0.06 per thousand) compared to 0.05 and 0.07 respectively for 1950.

Respiratory Disease (excluding pulmonary tuberculosis) accounted for 76 deaths, giving a death rate of 0.79 per thousand compared to 0.68 for 1950. Bronchitis caused 34 deaths, of which 27 occurred at the age of 65 years and upwards, pneumonia caused 31 deaths, of which 8 occurred at ages of less than 1 year and the other respiratory diseases caused 11 deaths.

Violent Deaths numbered 73, of which 6 were due to suicide, 13 to road accidents and 54 to other forms of violence.

Maternal Mortality. There was 1 death from puerperal causes, giving a rate of 0.7 per thousand births, compared to an average for the years 1946-50 of 1.6.

Infantile Mortality. There were 47 deaths at ages less than 1 year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 34 per thousand births. This figure is slightly higher than for the last two years, but is the same as the average for the years 1946-50. The figure for Scotland was 37.

Of the 47 deaths during the year, only 14 fell into the theoretically preventable group (pneumonia 12, diarrhoea 1, meningitis 1). The other 33 deaths were due to the group of causes which includes congenital debility, prematurity and malformations, compared to 31 deaths from these causes in 1950.

There were 31 still births, giving a still birth rate per thousand total births including still births of 22.4, compared with the average rate of 24 for the five years 1946-50.

MEDICAL AND NURSING SERVICES

The general arrangements have remained unchanged

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the following gifts made by Nursing Associations to the County Council during the year: Auchtergaven - car; Auchterarder - car; Thornhill - furnishings; Fossoway - furnishings

The County Council has agreed to build houses for District Nurses at Muthill, Kinloch Rannoch, Kirkmichael and Thornhill, each with a small dispensary attached; and at Kinross, with larger clinic premises attached. Work on these has commenced. Houses are also to be built at Aberfoyle, Dunblane and Strathyre

New cars were provided during the year at Auchterarder, Blair Atholl, Auchtergaven, Blairgowrie, Kenmore and Headquarters.

The information given below is in the form called for by the Department of Health for Scotland. All the Nursing Services are carried out by the District Nurses and the District figures are tabulated at the end of this Report.

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(a) Antenatal and Postnatal Clinics. No clinics are held in the County, but County patients attend at the clinics run by Perth Infirmary and Stirling Infirmary in these cities in conjunction with the local health authorities. During 1951, 436 cases from the Joint County received antenatal and/or post natal care at the Perth Clinic, making approximately 2790 attendances. Figures for Stirling Infirmary are not available.

(b) Child Welfare Clinics. All the child welfare work in the County is carried out by the District Nurses as Health Visitors, but during 1951, 13 children from the area surrounding Perth City made 23 attendances at Perth City Clinics.

(c) Dental Care. Under the priority dental scheme, 12 expectant mothers, 1 nursing mother and 5 pre-school children received treatment during the year.

(d) Mother and Baby Homes. None are provided.

(e) Day Nurseries. None are provided.

(f) Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes. No progress was made during the year towards providing homes for this group. During the year 13 children were accommodated in Westbank Nursery belonging to Perth City and a further 32 were accommodated in private nurseries.

(g) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948. No applications have been received under this Act.

(h) Family Planning. Advice is available to County cases at the Mothers' Welfare Clinic, Perth, and the Stirling Family Planning Clinic, both run by voluntary agencies, with small grants from the County Council.

These clinics serve a most useful purpose, although many County cases in which advice would be appropriate are unable to attend because of distance and because there are several young children who cannot be left. Advice is sought for medical reasons including infertility, or for family spacing or because of bad housing or precarious circumstances.

During the year 1951, County cases made 103 attendances at the Perth Clinic. The corresponding figures for Stirling are for the year ending 15th May when 14 County cases attended.

(i) Melville House, Perth. This organisation, which is now largely supported by local authorities in the area, carries out much preventive work amongst mothers and children in the area, in close co-operation with the County Health and Children Services. During the year ended 31/12/51 the House dealt with 59 County cases made up as follows:- Maternity cases, 11; family cases, 12; adoption cases, 36.

2. Midwifery Service. 738 births occurred in the area during the year, of which 729 were live births and 9 were still births. Of the 738 births, 253 took place in institutions and 485 at home. All of these 485 births were attended by the District Nurses. In 265 of these cases a doctor had been engaged and was present at the confinement; in 206 cases a doctor had been engaged but was not present at the confinement; and in 14 cases the confinement was conducted by the District Nurse alone, no doctor having been engaged.

All the district nurses are trained in the administration of gas and air analgesia and sets of apparatus are available in every district. During the year gas and air analgesia was administered in 236 cases and pethidine was administered in 223 cases.

3. Health Visiting. A total of 32,133 visits were paid by the District Nurses as Health Visitors. Of these, 1785 visits were paid to expectant mothers, including 473 first visits; 11,995 visits were paid to children under the age of one year, including 1433 first visits; 14,587 visits were paid to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years, including 432 first visits; and 1343 visits were paid for advisory purposes to persons suffering from tuberculosis.

4. Home Nursing. A total of 78,599 home nursing visits were made by the District Nurses during the year to a total of 6,344 cases.

5. Domestic Help. Monetary Assistance towards the cost of providing home help was given in 30 cases during the year under the Interim Scheme of Domestic Help, of which four were suffering from tuberculosis, the remainder being elderly persons living alone.

Proposals for providing Domestic Help in accordance with Section 28 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, 1947 have now been approved by the Secretary of State and the new Scheme will be brought into operation early in the coming year.

6. Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination. The number of vaccinations notified during the year 1951 was 1559. The percentage of pre-school children vaccinated is not known, but information from routine school medical inspection shows that the position in this area is still relatively satisfactory. Of 5385 school children examined during the year ended 31/7/51, 80.46% were found to have been vaccinated. The percentages varied slightly between the groups; entrants 83.34% 1941 group 81.25% 1937 group 78.85% and 1934 group 86.33%.

Diphtheria Immunisation. During the year 1951, 866 children were notified as having received the two injections and 644 received a reinforcing dose.

As explained in previous reports, the level of immunisation in the community is regarded as the important factor, the aim being to secure a minimum of 75% immunisation amongst pre-school children, with "boosting" doses on entry to school. As a result of continual pressure by the District Nurses, at the end of the year the overall percentage of immunised children of ages 1 - 5 remained at the very satisfactory figure of 85%.

It is again gratifying to record that no confirmed cases of diphtheria occurred in this area during the year, the last cases having occurred in October, 1947 and the last deaths in 1944.

Other diseases. In the absence of a reliable vaccine against whooping cough, immunisation against this disease is not included in the Council's scheme, although a number of general practitioners employ a combined diphtheria/whooping cough prophylactic with fair success.

7. Prevention of illness, Care and After-care.

Tuberculosis. The preventive work in connection with tuberculosis is carried out on behalf of the County Council by the Area Tuberculosis Physician of the Regional Hospital Board, who is thus in a position to correlate prevention with treatment. The table below gives comparative figures dating back to pre-war years.

	Average 1931-35	Average 1936-40	Average 1941-45	Average 1946-50	1950	1951
New confirmed cases:-						
Respiratory	53	54	58	75	66	75
Non-Respiratory	54	57	53	27	15	23
Cases on list at 31st Dec.:						
Respiratory	145	164	166	255	297	342
Non-Respiratory	163	222	203	161	139	120
Number of cases receiving Institutional treatment	115	119	139	123	142	170
Deaths:-						
Respiratory	32	26	29	26	15	15
Non-Respiratory	14	11	15	5	5	3

New respiratory cases confirmed during the year were 75, the same as the average for the years 1946-50. There were 342 respiratory cases remaining on the list at 31/12/51, this high figure being a carry over of the higher incidence of the past few years. The deaths, however, still show the downward trend, being 15 for 1951, as against an average of 25 for the years 1946-50.

Non-respiratory figures continue to show a fall and there were only 3 deaths during the year compared to an average of 5 deaths for the years 1946-50.

There was a further increase in the number of patients who received hospital care throughout the year, the number being 170 as against an average of 131 for the previous five years. Of the 170, 131 were respiratory cases.

Further progress was made in the examination of contacts, 205 contacts of pulmonary cases being examined, an average of 3.1 contacts per confirmed case. In addition 15 contacts of non-pulmonary cases were also examined during the year.

Under the scheme providing for B.C.G. vaccination, 32 persons were tuberculin tested. Of these 20 were found to be tuberculin negative and were successfully vaccinated with B.C.G. These figures show a very slight increase from the previous year.

During the year extra nourishment grants were given in 13 cases and as usual sputum containers and disinfectants were supplied where required.

General There was no change during the year in the general arrangements for tuberculosis prevention work in the area.

8. Infectious Disease. During the year 1951, the death rate per thousand of the population from the principal infectious diseases was 0.20 for the combined County, compared to an average of 0.10 for the previous five years.

The number of confirmed cases of infectious disease coming to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health, whether by notification or otherwise is shown below:-

Cerebro-spinal Fever	3	Pneumonia, not otherwise notifiable	18
Diphtheria	-	Poliomyelitis, acute	2
Dysentery	12	Puerperal Fever	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Erysipelas	8	Scarlet Fever	104
Malaria	-	Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	75
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	Tuberculosis, non-pulmonary	23
Pneumonia, acute influenzal	2	Typhoid	-
Pneumonia, acute primary	25	Enteric Fever	-

Apart from scarlet fever, the incidence of infectious diseases remained at a low level. The number of cases of scarlet fever was 104, exactly double the number in the previous year. Most of the cases were scattered throughout the County, but there was a definite slightly higher incidence in the Eastern District. The figures for pneumonia were very similar to those of the previous year. Only two cases of poliomyelitis occurred, compared to an average of ten for the previous five years, which includes the peak of 30 for 1947. From school figures the incidence of whooping cough and measles remained low.

9 Venereal Diseases. The figures for new cases from this area in attendance at the clinics at Perth, Dundee and Stirling are shown below:-

	Perth	Dundee	Stirling	Totals
(a) Syphilis	8	1	3	12
(b) Gonorrhoea	10	3	4	17
(c) Other venereal conditions	11	4	3	18
Totals	29	8	10	47
(d) Non-venereal conditions	13	9	6	28
	42	17	16	75

These figures represent a decrease of approximately one-third compared to the average of previous years.

10 Mental Health Services. During the year 33 persons were admitted to hospital at the instance of the Authorised Officers. Of this number 27 were admitted to the Hospital, Murthly, 4 to Murray Royal, Perth, and 2 to Stratheden Hospital, Fife.

Of 5 certified mental defectives admitted to Institutions, 4 were admitted to Baldovan Certified Institution, Dundee and 1 to Lennox Castle Certified Institution, Stirlingshire.

On behalf of the Eastern Regional Hospital Board, statutory supervision and after-care were given to 8 persons suffering from mental illness and who had been placed under guardianship, boarded out or discharged from hospital on probation.

The number of certified mental defectives boarded out under guardianship by the Council who were under statutory supervision was 6, no new cases being placed under guardianship.

Extensive use was made during the year of the Perth Clinic at which the services of the Specialist in Mental Deficiency is available for consultation, usually for advice regarding assessment of cases.

11. Orthopaedic Scheme. During the year the Orthopaedic Scheme was carried out as formerly on an agency basis on behalf of the Regional Hospital Board. The undernoted figures show the work done during the year:-

	Pre-School		School Children		Adults		TOTAL
	City	County	City	County	City	County	
Attendances at Surgeon's Clinics	568	468	513	670	23	38	2280
Cases under treatment	71	114	157	145	-	-	487
Cases under observation	63	81	95	64	-	-	303
Number of treatments	893	1181	2873	2582	69	165	7763
New cases during year	169	139	113	106	-	21	548
Discharges during year	44	37	130	74	18	20	323
Admissions:							
Bridge of Earn	4	10	11	33	-	-	58
Fairmilehead	-	-	-	1	-	1	2

12. Health Education. The usual short talks and demonstrations on Health Topics were given during the year by the District Nurses to women's organisations, mostly W.R.I. meetings, the total number being 35 lectures and 19 demonstrations.

Extensive use was made of the Film Unit from the Scottish Office of Information during the year. Twenty-five meetings were held for various adult organisations, mainly W.R.I. meetings, at which Health Films were shown and a talk given by a member of the staff of the County Health Department. These meetings were very successful, a large percentage of the membership of the organisations concerned being present.

13. Registration of nursing Homes. There are two private Nursing Homes registered in the area:-

- 1 at Crieff (medical and maternity)
- 1 at Aberfoyle (medical only)

SCHOOL HEALTH

A separate report has been issued for the year ending 31st July, 1951.

Negotiations with Perth City with regard to obtaining the services of the City Medical Staff for school work were successfully concluded, and the new arrangement commenced in September, 1951. The arrangement has worked satisfactorily and has provided for a long awaited and much needed improvement in the School Health Service.

The comprehensive scheme of improvements covering all the schools in the area has proceeded satisfactorily and in general the sanitary state of the schools is good.

WELFARE SERVICE

Residential Accommodation. Admissions and discharges during the year to the County Council's Residential Homes were as follows:-

	Strathearn	Cuil-an-Daraich	Cottage Home
In residence at 31/12/50	25	23	7
Admissions during year	10	17	4
Discharges during year	12	26	4
In residence at 31/12/51	23	14	7

Early in the year the property known as St. John's Mount, Dunblane, was acquired with a view to conversion into an Eventide Home, and it was hoped that the scheme of adaptation would be completed and the Home opened early in 1952. Approval to proceed was however delayed and the work had not commenced at the end of the year. The intention is to provide a small home accommodating 7 elderly persons, with a standard of comfort at least equal to that provided in voluntary homes.

This will be the first of a number of similar homes for old people which it is hoped to provide in various parts of the County.

An extensive scheme of modernisation and improvements is in progress at Cuil-an-Daraich which when completed will convert the Home into one equipped to provide a high standard of comfort for the residents.

The number of old people admitted to voluntary homes and towards whose maintenance the Council make supplementary payments continues to increase, the number for whom payment was made during the year being as follows:-

Belmont Castle Eventide Home	5
Hope Park Home, Blairgowrie	18
Mailler Home of Rest, Auchterarder	5
Orphan Homes of Scotland, Bridge of Weir (Epileptic Colony)	1
Inglewood Home, Alloa	1
Oswald House Eventide Home for Blind Women, Edinburgh	1

Temporary accommodation was provided during the year for six persons.

Hospital Care. The arrangement whereby hospital accommodation is provided on behalf of the Eastern Regional Hospital Board for chronic sick cases in Strathearn Home and Cuil-an-Daraich continues.

Admissions and discharges during the year were as follows:-

	Strathearn	Cuil-an-Daraich
In sick beds on 31/12/50	30	17
Admissions during year	17	13
Discharges and deaths during year	15	15
In sick beds on 31/12/51	32	15

Welfare Services for Handicapped Persons.

Blind Persons. The duties of the Council in respect of blind persons and partially sighted persons are carried out on their behalf by the Society for Teaching the Blind to Read in the County and City of Perth.

During the year ended 31st March, 1951, 16 cases were certified blind and registered for the first time bringing the total number of blind persons on the Register to 118.

Detailed particulars are as follows:-

Age Groups	5-15	16-17	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-69	70	Total
	5	-	6	6	8	40	53	118
Children	At School - Blind Institution							2
(5-15)	Not at School (Mental Defectives)							3
Adults	In sheltered employment - Workshops for the Blind							5
	In other employment							15
	Undergoing Industrial Training							1
	Probably trainable in an Institution for the Blind							1
	Unemployable							91

Other Handicapped Persons. At the end of the year there were 2 cases for whose maintenance the County Council are responsible in the Eastern Regional Orthopaedic Council Home for Crippled Girls, Anton House, Broughty Ferry, and one case in the Derwen Cripples Training College, Oswestry.

The Eastern Regional Orthopaedic Council have submitted a Scheme to the various local authorities in the region for the training of homebound handicapped persons in their own homes. The proposal is that an additional teacher be appointed at Anton House who would visit the cases considered suitable and try to teach them some occupation by which they can get satisfaction and perhaps earn a little money to supplement their income. Cases would be visited weekly while they were being taught and then at regular intervals to supervise their work, issue new work and collect that which had been done. Arrangements would be made for sales of the finished work through Anton House. For other cases goods would be made which would be of use in Local Authority Homes. The scheme was still under consideration by the various local authorities at the end of the year.

Removal of Persons in urgent need of care. There were no cases necessitating the use of compulsory powers of removal during the year.

Care of Property of Persons admitted to Hospital etc. No arrangements required to be made for the protection of moveable property during the year. In one case continued from the previous year protection continues to be afforded.

Burial or Cremation of the Dead. Arrangements for the burial of ten cases had to be carried out during the year.

Registration of Old People's Homes. One Home for Old People was registered during the year, the total number of Homes registered at the end of the year being 8.

CHILDREN

The Children's Home has operated for a full year in its new surroundings. A scheme of adaptation has been approved including new electricity supply, central heating and lavatory and toilet facilities and it is hoped that most of this adaptation work will be completed by the end of next year. Provision of new beds and dining room furniture has already made a considerable difference in the Home. The average number of children in the Home during the year was thirty, which is an indication of the useful purpose the Home is serving.

The private residential nursery formerly extensively used for pre-school children was discontinued as such during the year, but alternative accommodation has been available in the Westbank Nursery belonging to Perth Town Council and another smaller private nursery, but the accommodation available to the County Council is quite insufficient to meet the demands. The provision of a nursery with accommodation for at least twenty children is now approved in principle, but so far no suitable premises have been found.

During the year 37 notifications were received under the Adoption Act, 1950, which requires supervision until Adoption Orders are granted. Two children who were in the care of the County Council were legally adopted and ten children were placed in the care of foster parents. The following table shows the number of children in the care of the Council as at 31st December, 1950, together with the number of applications dealt with during the year.

	Children in care under Children Act, 1948	Children committed under the 1937 Act	Total	New Appli- cations during year	Dis- charges during year
1. Children boarded out -					
(a) with relatives	18	-	18	4	3
(b) with foster-parents	22	2	24	9	2
2. Children's House	30	-	30	35	35
3. Children in other Local Authority Homes:-					
Westbank Nursery	6	-	6	13	7
Cleeve Children's Home	1	-	1	1	-
4. Children in Voluntary Homes					
Moy Park Nursery	-	-	-	24	24
The Orphanage, Aberlour	1	-	1	1	-
Dr. Barnardo's Homes	5	1	6	3	-
Orphan Homes of Scotland	1	-	1	-	-
Wellshill Girls' School	1	-	1	-	1
Training Home for Girls, Dundee	1	-	1	-	1
Levenhall, Home, Musselburgh	1	-	1	-	1
St. Vincent's Refuge, Dundee	-	-	-	-	3
Renfrew Training Home, Glasgow	1	-	1	1	1
Child Welfare Clinic Stirling	-	-	-	1	1
Pitversie Private Nursery	-	-	-	8	8
Dunolly Education Hostel, Aberfeldy	1	-	1	1	-
5. Children over school age under supervision	13	-	13	-	-
	102	3	105	101	87

FOOD SUPPLY

1. Food and Drugs.

Sampling. During the year ended 31st December, 1951, 544 samples were taken and submitted for analysis, compared to 411 samples during the previous year

Of these, 517 were informal samples comprising 226 sweet milk (1 non-genuine), 38 ice cream (15 non-genuine), 28 cereals, 26 tinned foods, 18 sauces, 15 jams and jellies, 11 sandwich spread, 11 meat paste, 5 whisky (2 non-genuine), 8 aspirins, 7 fruits, 7 fruit and other essences, 6 Epsom Salts, 5 ales, 5 rennet, 4 condensed milk, 2 sausages, 4 mustard, 4 baking powder, 7 coffee essence, 4 fish paste, 4 vinegar, 4 nescafe, 3 cream of tartar, 3 baking soda, 3 lemonade, 3 gravy salt, 2 cheese, 2 pepper, 2 jelly crystals, 1 ginger, miscellaneous samples ointments, stomach powders. etc. - 39

37 formal samples were taken as against 32 for the previous year, 22 of milk, 5 of ice cream, (3 non-genuine), 3 of whisky (2 non-genuine), 5 of mince and 2 of sausages.

One informal sample of milk was found to be deficient in butter fat and non-fatty solids. A "follow-up" formal sample was, however, found genuine. Two complaints of odour and taste in milk were investigated. One was not confirmed, and in the other case the acidity of the sample when received was so high that it was almost impossible to determine any irregularity. One sample of milk was examined for lead with negative results, and an examination was made of a milk supply following a complaint regarding the blackening of tea infusions when milk was added. This was found to be due to an excess of iron in the sample, and although an exhaustive enquiry was made and all sources checked, the reason for the iron contamination was not found. Samples have since been examined, however, and no further cause for complaint has been found.

43 samples of ice cream were examined, and of these 17 were deficient in fat and one was deficient in fat and milk solids. As most of these samples were informal and taken to find out the constitution of the ice cream, no action was taken, but all the proprietors were warned and subsequent samples taken showed a decided improvement.

Cases for prosecution were reported in three instances. In two of the cases the manufacturers were fined £5 and £2 respectively, and in the third instance the Fiscal did not proceed with the case as the defender's portion of the sample had been analysed and been reported to be genuine.

All samples of mince and sausages conformed to the Preservatives in Food Regulations.

Of the 8 samples of whisky taken, 4 were below the minimum of 35° under proof. In three of these cases, the amount below standard was so slight that it was considered a letter of warning to the sellers would be sufficient. In the fourth case, which was 49.5° under proof, court action was taken and at Kinross Sheriff Court the seller pled guilty with an explanation and was admonished by the Sheriff.

19 samples were taken under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, of which 6 did not conform to standard.

The average quality of the milk supply, based on the samples submitted during the year, remained satisfactory, showing total solids 12.76% made up of milk fat 4.00% and non-fatty solids 8.76%.

Unsound Food. 17 cwt. 3 qrs. of foodstuffs were seized during the year.

Meat Inspection. Details of the animals slaughtered, the condemnations made are shown in the Table for the individual slaughterhouses in the County. The slaughterhouse at Pitlochry was closed as from September, 1951.

Year 1951	Class of Animals	Number of Animals			Weight (in lbs. of condemned meat and offals)
		Slaughtered	Wholly condemned	Partially condemned	
Aberfeldy	Cattle	288	14	8	5464
	Sheep	1653	6	2	421
	Pigs	30	1	-	58
	Calves	95	-	-	-
Blairgowrie	Cattle	1043	62	84	51408
	Sheep	5561	101	95	7077
	Pigs	813	12	41	3387
	Calves	333	5	2	535
Crieff	Cattle	802	24	7	16093
	Sheep	3852	20	3	1617
	Pigs	132	4	2	488
	Calves	210	4	-	299

Year 1951	Class of Animals	Number of Animals			Weight (in lbs.) of condemned meat and offals
		Slaughtered	Wholly condemned	Partially condemned	
Dunblane	Cattle	638	15	15	11333
	Sheep	2094	15	4	710
	Pigs	88	1	5	289
	Calves	129	1	3	109
Pitlochry	Cattle	191	3	4	1744
	Sheep	583	-	-	-
	Pigs	29	-	-	-
	Calves	11	-	-	-
Milnathort	Pigs	3753	2	305	2362

2. Milk and Dairies. 31 new applications were registered during the year 1951, and 22 registrations lapsed for various reasons. The total number of dairy registrations in the Combined County at 31/12/51 was 348 (an increase of 9), comprising 285 in Perth County, 58 in Kinross County, and 25 in the various Burghs. Of these 213 were registered as producer/wholesalers, 93 as producer/retailers and 42 as retailers only. There were no wholesale dealers only

The average number of cows per dairy herd was 29.6 at 31/12/51, compared to 29.3, 30.3, 29 and 26.6 at the end of the years 1950, 1949, 1948 and 1947 respectively.

Of the 306 producers at 31/12/51, 210 held designated licences, an increase of 19 over the previous year; certified 23 (an increase of 5); tuberculin tested 184 (an increase of 16); and standard 3 (a decrease of 2). The number of pasteurising plants remained at 2.

The results of milk sampling are shown in the following tables:-

Designation	No. of Farms	No. of samples	Number of farms where the bacterial count was			Number of farms the milk from which showed presence of coliform bacilli	
			Consistently up to standard	Not up to standard		on one occasion	on two or more occasions
				on one occasion	on two or more occasions		
Certified	23	170	14	3	5	3	6
Tuberculin Tested	195	1102	149	25	10	27	17
Standard	4	16	3	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised within County	2	46	1	1	-	-	-
outwith County	-	5	-	-	-	1	-
Totals	224	1339	167	29	15	31	23

Ordinary Producer-Retailers

Number of Farms	Number of Samples	Number of Farms consistently up to standard	Number of Farms where sample failed	
			on one occasion	on two or more occasions
51	57	43	4	3

Biological Testing for Tuberculosis

Type of Milk	Number of samples examined	Number of positive results	Number of Producers involved in positive results
Tuberculin Tested	3	-	-
Standard	4	-	-
Non-designated	11	1	1
Totals	18	1	1

In general dairymen have been found to comply with the prescribed conditions and no licences were refused, suspended or revoked during the year.

One dairy herd was involved in an acute outbreak of streptococcal mastitis, 37 out of the 39 animals in the herd being affected in all four quarters in the majority of cases. Fortunately the milk from this herd was pasteurised and no consumers were affected. The entire herd was disposed of and fresh stock introduced. The source of the outbreak was not discovered.

3. Ice Cream. During the year 7 additional registrations were approved under the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948. Of these 5 were for storage and sale and 2 for sale (including one vehicle)

The number of removals from the Register was 3 (1 for manufacture, storage and sale, and 2 for storage and sale), and at 31/12/51 the total number of registrations in force was 128, comprising 38 for manufacture, storage and sale, 72 for storage and sale, 11 for sale only and 7 vehicles (4 for storage and sale, and 3 for sale only)

During the year 38 test samples were taken for chemical analysis. Of these 15 were found to be below the prescribed standard of 2.5% fat. 5 official samples were taken, of which 3 were found to be deficient in fat, and as stated earlier in this report, court action was instituted

21 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and of these 3 did not comply with the suggested standard.

4. Clean Food. No new measures were taken during the year to ensure the hygienic handling of foodstuffs by food traders, manufacturers and their employees, but attention was directed to this matter at routine inspections under the Factories Acts and at inspections in connection with alterations or additions to premises. Clean food is one of the subjects usually dealt with in Health Talks, of which details are given earlier in this report

Following complaints from outwith the area regarding meat products produced by one manufacturer in the area, considerable structural improvements were called for and work on these had started by the end of the year.

5. Nutrition. No change was apparent during the year under review.

PERTH COUNTY

REPORT to Perth County Council on the non-transferred functions.

Mr. A.L. Riddell, County Sanitary Inspector

1. Housing.

General. The total number of houses erected by Perth County Council up to the end of 1950 was 1265. During the year 1951, a further 240 houses were completed and occupied and at the end of the year 376 houses were at various stages of construction.

Building Byelaws. 358 applications were dealt with. Of these 267 were in respect of additions, alterations, etc. to individual existing houses and 91 were in respect of 310 new houses. Of the 310 new houses, 236 were houses to be built by the County Council (16 of 2

apartments, 156 of 3 apartments and 64 of 4 apartments); 66 were houses to be built by private enterprise (2 of 2 apartments, 25 of 3 apartments, 19 of 4 apartments, 18 of 5 apartments and 2 of 6 apartments); and 8 were houses to be built under the Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act, 1938 (5 of 3 apartments and 3 of 4 apartments).

Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act, 1938. 10 Certificates "A" were issued in respect of 10 houses, and 3 Certificates "B" were issued in respect of 3 houses.

Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950. 32 applications for grant under the above Act were received, of which 31 were approved, and Certificates "B" were issued in respect of 13 houses

Control of Civil Building The total number of applications for licences dealt with during the year was 392.

Housing of Seasonal Workers. The inspection of seasonal workers' accommodation is mainly concentrated in the Eastern District, and an annual visit is paid by a small sub-committee to the berryfields during the picking season. In general, the Byelaws are fairly well observed, and there is a slow but steady improvement in the standard of the premises provided.

Tents, Vans and Sheds. During the year 142 inspections were made under this heading

Some little trouble has been experienced, particularly during the potato harvest when fairly large parties of tinkers set up camps in certain localities. So long as farmers make use of the labour thus available, little can be done to prevent such camps, but every effort is made to ensure that water and some form of sanitation are present. These camps, as a rule, are in existence for two or three weeks only. The trouble arises not so much from the occupants of the camps employed by local farmers, but more from the presence of 'hangers on' who are invariably found around tinkers camps and who, although not 'tinkers' in the true sense of the word, often bring discredit upon the whole body

It has been noted that several camping sites used by tinkers for many years have recently been railed off by estate proprietors, and consequently the number of tinkers camps seen is steadily, if slowly, decreasing each year.

The trailer caravan is still increasing in popularity among holiday makers and although the individual caravanner or camps organised by bodies such as the Caravan Club give no trouble, the urge of small landowners or crofters to cash in on the influx of persons seeking caravan sites often leads to conflict not only with the Sanitary Inspector who deals with Byelaw requirements, but also with the Planning Officer, who is concerned with the preservation of amenity.

Several organised camps of Girl Guides, Boy Scouts and other youth organisations were inspected, and as usual, and indeed as is to be expected, these were found to be well organised and properly supervised.

2 Water Supplies.

Sampling 257 samples were taken during the year, during routine investigations, or following complaints or in connection with applications for grant under the Agricultural Water Supplies Scheme. 22 samples were taken of public water supplies.

General. Again little progress can be reported this year on the Regional Water Supplies. Adequate supplies of pipes are now forward for the Loch Turret Scheme despite shortage of steel, but administration difficulties continue to defer an active start to the job. Meantime, however, advantage is being taken to push on with the general distribution network throughout the County. These Rural Main extensions require to follow the policy of the Agricultural Industry which they serve by expanding as and when the time appears most opportune. Apart from the failure of a supply or the realisation of contamination of several existing supplies, such Schemes often arise by the sale of a farm, the splitting up of an Estate, or the desire of a farmer to alter his farming methods. For instance, the flooding of the Isla and Ericht has caused a demand for water in the Alyth-Blairgowrie area for dairy farming instead of normal cropping

During 1951 the Carse supply to St. Madoes was completed, enabling housing to commence there and a further extension was made to Inchyra Farms. The Kinloch Rannoch village supply was completed and an extension was laid to Forestry Commission houses there. The Dunkeld Regional-Airtully-Murthly supply was completed and extended to feed Hospital Cottages near Murthly Station. A new line was laid out from Perth Burgh supply to feed farms in the Inveralmond area. By arrangement with the Blairgowrie Water Board their supply was extended from Rosemount Station to feed Islabank Farm. Unfortunately, the Blairgowrie supply is meantime restricted but this pipe can eventually feed all the houses en route. The Meikleour supply was extended to feed Gateside and other farms. The obsolete private mains in Meigle were abandoned and a new public supply was laid throughout the whole village. The New Alyth supply (fed off Alyth Burgh) was extended to feed eight farms in the Aberbothrie-Bardmony area. The Dunkeld Regional Supply was extended to feed Byres Farm and Estate Cottages at Kingswood.

In order to permit Council housing and a police station to be erected at Lochearnhead a scheme of improvements and augmentation of the Feuars' supply was arranged. Housing extensions were made at Scone (Goshenbank), Stanley (Linn Road), Gildtown, Bridge of Earn, Almondbank (Bridgeton), Burrelton (Woodside), Gartmore, Thornhill (The Hill), Deanston, Blackford, Ballinluig, Murthly (Gellyburn), Comrie, Luncarty, Scone (Douglas Institute), Aberfoyle and Glenfarg. A supply scheme was prepared and mains ordered for the Huntingtower-Ruthvenfield area to be fed from Perth Burch. This scheme would also augment the Methven-Almondbank supply and permit continued housing extension there. Pipes were also ordered for an extension of the Dunning supply to Dunning Station which would feed the Balgour Farms. Further minor extensions were made in the Kincardine area (to Murdieston Farm), Craigend (to Plashburn), Aberuthven (Dunning Road) and Muthill (Nurse's Cottage). Obsolete service piping was replaced by a main at Balbeggie (Auchmague-Rosefield).

Survey work was continued on the proposed new supplies at Fearnan and Lethendy and on the Fairygreen extension of the Balbeggie system; it is now proposed to extend the latter to Gallowhill. A supply scheme to feed Coupar Angus, and the Meikle Coupar Angus Farms off the Dundee mains at Meikle was investigated and the pipes provisionally ordered. Pipes were ordered for a main from the Coldoch turn-off on the Stirling-Thornhill road to feed all farms between that point and Thornhill and also for a main connecting Tomnacknock and Madderty village. Pipes were also ordered for a new village supply at Kirkton of Balquhider. No further progress was made in regard to the mains from the Depot site at Scone, but the pipes were delivered and stored in readiness for the War Department.

During the year, 392 houses were connected to the mains for the first time and the under-noted additional fittings supplied:- 682 new sinks, 398 wash-hand basins, 433 water closets, 327 batns, 323 cisterns, 166 miscellaneous taps, 66 field troughs, 253 drinking bowls, a total of 2638 connections. This averages out at between 9 and 10 new appliances connected to our water supplies every working day. Despite this increased demand and with relatively little increase in net consumption, the existing systems continue to function without being seriously overtaxed; this is largely due to the elimination of waste which during the year was still further tightened up. The consumption in most of the County areas must now be running at less than 30 gallons per head per day.

The County supplies were efficiently maintained and in minor degree improved. New upward flow screening tanks are replacing the older vertical screens and being installed where no screens previously existed. During the year, water byelaws dealing with the prevention of waste, mis-use or contamination of the supplies were prepared and approved ready for adoption.

3. Drainage.

General. The Vacuum Tank Waggon purchased last year is proving to be most satisfactory in overcoming the sludge disposal problem. A regular programme of desludging of works is now in operation to the great benefit of the standard of effluents now being obtained at all works. In addition to serving all the County Sewage Works, the Waggon is also employed in emptying and cleaning Septic Tanks of schools, institutions and private dwellings throughout the County at remunerative charges.

A composting site has been established at Methven Sewage Works and a very good compost is being produced. This is now on sale and the demand now far exceeds the supply. Requests for compost are now being received from Market Gardeners and commercial raspberry growers. The main problem now is to obtain an adequate supply of straw with which to compost.

During the year new sewage systems were brought into operation at the villages of Gildtown, Muckhart and Acharn. Part of the sewage schemes for Aberfoyle, Glencarse, Forgandenny and Bridge of Earn were constructed with temporary septic tanks for housing schemes. Extensions to housing schemes were constructed in many villages which already possess sewage systems.

The sedimentation tanks of the sewage works at Methven and Bankfoot were altered to afford better precipitation and easier cleaning besides materially improving the quality of the effluent. Minor alterations to enable the vacuum tank waggon to operate efficiently were carried out at the sewage treatment works of Methven, Bankfoot, Stanley and Burrelton. At Comrie, one of the original sludge drying beds was brought back into use and the concrete drying bed disused.

Work is in progress on constructing sewage systems and sewage treatment works for Muthill, Meikle, Ardler, Longforgan and Carsie. Preliminary engineering work is completed for drainage schemes at Almondbank, Scone, Kenmore and the Bunnanoch side of Kinloch Rannoch and are awaiting permission to proceed.

All sewage systems and treatment works throughout the County have been maintained in fair condition throughout the year.

Acharn. A sewage system has been provided for that portion of Acharn village lying to the east of the Acharn Burn which affords drainage to all existing property. Treatment is provided by septic tank with the effluent discharging into Acharn Burn.

Guildtown The sewage system which has been constructed for this village provides drainage for all existing property and for any reasonable development in the future. Sewage treatment is by means of sedimentation tanks and one circular filter. Provision has been made for desludging by means of the vacuum tank waggon. The effluent discharges into the Cambusmichael Burn. A fairly high standard of purification will have to be maintained.

Muckhart. This village has now been provided with a drainage system which affords drainage to all properties in both the Pool and Yetts of Muckhart with allowance for any reasonable future development. The sewage works consist of tank treatment with two circular filter beds. Provision has been made for desludging by means of the vacuum tank waggon.

Sampling 5 samples of effluent were examined during the year, and all complied with the standard

4. Scavenging. There are 24 Special Scavenging Districts within the County. During the year the former Carse and Perth Nos. 1 and 2 Districts were combined to form Perth Regional Scavenging District. This re-arrangement resulted in some economy as the use of a driver, loader and lorry in the Carse District was dispensed with, the work in the Carse area now being done by one of the Perth lorries.

This economy can only, however, be regarded as a temporary measure as owing to the increased number of properties which have to be scavenged each year, due to Local Authority housing schemes being extended, and in a lesser degree to the amount of private building work going on, the time will soon be reached when an increase in the number of men and vehicles employed on the work will be necessary.

In the remaining special scavenging districts, the work is done by contract, the contractors being local farmers or tradesmen, although in some few cases the work is done by contract with the Town Council of an adjacent Burgh.

566 inspections in connection with scavenging districts were made during the year.

Salvage. During the year the amount of waste paper collected was 76 tons 3 qrs. valued at £802. 11/-

5 Burial Grounds. The burial grounds throughout the County have been adequately maintained

6. Factories Act. 1937. At 31st December, 1951, there were in the County 207 mechanical and 39 non-mechanical factories. In addition, 9 building and 10 engineering sites were dealt with under Section 7 of the Act

During the year, 163 inspections were made and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory

Intimations concerning minor defects were received on 2 occasions from H.M. Inspector of Factories. These were satisfactorily cleared up without recourse to written intimations. On 16 other occasions minor defects were found which were remedied without recourse to written intimations

7. Offensive Trades. There are no offensive trades operating in the landward part of the County.

8. Rats and Mice Destruction. In the County two full-time squads, comprising in all two foremen and three rat-trappers, are employed. These men are under the direct control of the Sanitary Department and there are, in addition, seven qualified Sanitary Inspectors available for rat control work

Much of the work done by the squads is undertaken following complaints or requests for service made to the Sanitary Department or direct to the squad foreman, but a fair amount of survey work has also been done, and following these inspections, any disinfection found to be necessary is carried out

There are no districts in the County where abnormal infestations of rats or mice have been found

Since most disinfection work is carried out on farms, liaison has been maintained between the responsible Committee of the County Council and the County Agricultural Executive Committee to ensure that farmers are aware of the provisions and requirements of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, and the services available

Properties which are liable to infestation, e.g. refuse dumps, slaughterhouses and sewage works are regularly inspected and any necessary work carried out immediately

No special difficulties have been encountered in the enforcement of the Act, and no legal proceedings were instituted during the year. All cases where difficulty was experienced in persuading owners or occupiers to take action were resolved after a personal visit or letter.

Survey work was carried out as conditions permitted, and 244 premises were inspected. No serious infestations were found, and any work necessary was carried out by the squad concerned.

72 inspections in connection with rats and mice were carried out by members of the Sanitary staff.

The following table shows the work done during the year by the Rat Destruction staff.-

	Local Authority Properties	Dwelling Houses	Business or Industrial premises	Agricultural properties	Total
Properties inspected	49	69	71	341	530
Properties where work was found necessary and which were satisfactorily cleared	48	47	63	96	254

During these operations, the number of rats killed by poison, trapping or gassing was 25,966, while the number of mice destroyed was 300. Mole catching was carried out on 8 different properties.

9. Disinfestations (apart from Rats and Mice). This heading covers the treatment of premises for insect infestations which may be very troublesome to the occupiers of the premises concerned.

The number of complaints received was much fewer than last year - 11 as against 30, and in no case was a hotel kitchen or bakery involved.

The one case of lice infestation arose in a contractor's camp and was caused by an infected worker. The worker concerned was satisfactorily treated and immediate action was taken to have all bedding in the dormitory concerned steam disinfected. It is a coincidence that this one camp was the subject of a similar complaint last year with another workman.

The case of ant infestation occurred in a hospital where black ants were making their way along heating ducts to the food stores and kitchen. The infestation was fortunately in its very early stages and was treated successfully.

A summary of the work carried out is given below:-

Premises treated	Fleas	Lice	Beetles	Ants	Woodworm	Furniture Beetles	Total	Visits paid
Dwelling houses	1	-	3	-	3	1	8	27
Bothies	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3
Camps	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Hospitals	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	7
Totals	1	1	4	1	3	1	11	39

In addition 7 complaints were received regarding wasps' nests in dwelling houses, usually in the roof spaces, and these were all successfully dealt with.

In one case an infestation of bats in an attic space was complained of, and this was dealt with by sealing all means of ingress for the bats to the attic concerned since when no further cause for complaint has arisen.

10 Nuisances. Inspections were made in 637 cases of alleged nuisances. These included 40 miscellaneous, 404 drainage, 183 water supplies, 26 deposits of refuse, 11 dirty houses and 12 in connection with burial grounds. These latter complaints all concerned the activities of moles and rabbits in burial grounds and were all satisfactorily dealt with.

No nuisances of special interest were noted, and no statutory Notices were served during the year.

11. Lighting There are now 31 special lighting districts within the landward County area. New districts which came into operation during the year were Blair Atholl, St. Fillans, Glencarse and Gilmerton.

The total number of lighting points involved is 999, of which 940 are gas-filled tungsten lamps, the remaining 59 being mercury vapour lamps.

All systems are controlled by time clocks of the Solar Dial type which automatically change the time of lighting according to the season of the year, and require little attention from the responsible Lighting Officer whose main duties are the replacement of broken or burnt out bulbs, and generally overseeing the running of the installation, and checking upon the times of lighting and extinguishing the lamps.

The lighting schemes generally, although probably far short of the standard expected in large towns or cities, are considered adequate for their purpose and are appreciated by the local inhabitants.

12. Complaints 183 complaints were received and dealt with. As is not uncommon, a large percentage of this total had their origin in neighbours' disagreements and these were satisfactorily dealt with by the District Inspectors, although in some few cases assistance was required from Headquarters before a satisfactory conclusion was reached.

On the whole, the District Inspectors deal successfully with all complaints received without written intimations.

13. General. During the year, 5816 specific inspections were made by the Sanitary staff. These included all branches of the work, but as is usual, many minor matters of little consequence were dealt with by the District Inspectors on the spot, and are not included in the total.

KINROSS COUNTY

REPORT to the Kinross County Council on non-transferred functions in the County of Kinross

Mr. C.M. Stevenson, Sanitary Inspector

1. Housing. At the end of 1950, the total number of houses erected by the County Council was 96. 4 houses were completed during the year, and at the end of the year a further 32 were under construction.

Under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, 20 water closets were installed, and 5 unfit houses were dealt with.

2. Water Supply. The supervision of the various water works, etc. is undertaken by the Sanitary Department. The Milnathort supply remained satisfactory in quality and adequate in quantity, although near capacity. The Ministry of Works main from Mawmill to Stirling Road was acquired during the year, and it is proposed to extend this to Milnathort for augmentation as may be required. On the Kinnesswood supply a new tank at a higher level is to be provided with ten times the capacity of the former tank. Supplies to other communities remain as before.

During the year ten samples were taken for chemical analysis and thirteen for bacteriological examination.

3. Drainage. There are now two Special Districts. The works at Milnathort functioned satisfactorily, and the new Kinnesswood works are giving very efficient results. Three notices for connection to the new sewage system were complied with.

4. Cleansing. The Scavenging Area was extended and now includes all the villages except the Blairadam area. The coup at Perth Road is very well managed.

5. Offensive Trades. There are none. The only slaughterhouse, at Milnathort for pigs only, is well conducted.

6. Burial Grounds. These are in satisfactory condition.

7. Factories. There are 24 mechanical and 19 non-mechanical factories in the area, and there were 9 building sites coming within the scope of the Act. 47 visits of inspection were made, and the few minor defects found were remedied.

8. General. 81 complaints were investigated and remedies obtained where necessary.

The general level of health in the County remained satisfactory.

**REPORTS to TOWN COUNCILS on NON-TRANSFERRED
FUNCTIONS for the years 1950 and 1951**

ABERFELDY

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. A.I. Fraser
Mr. G.A. Sangster (from 16/6/51)

1. Housing. At 31/12/49, the Town Council had erected a total of 113 houses. 8 houses were completed during the year 1950 and a further 8 were completed during 1951, with a further 20 houses under construction at 31/12/51.

2. Water Supply. This is satisfactory in quality and is adequate in quantity apart from minor pressure difficulties at the eastern end of the Burgh, which however are gradually being overcome by slight alterations in the system.

3. Drainage. The sewage works, consisting of grit chambers and sedimentation tanks with outfall to the River Tay, have operated efficiently. Provision has been made to incorporate rotary filters if necessary, and it seems likely that these will shortly be required.

4. Scavenging. This service is operated by direct labour and has been carried out in a satisfactory manner. Refuse disposal is by controlled tipping which has also been satisfactory, no complaints of nuisance or rat infestation having been received.

5. Factories. There are 22 factories in the Burgh, 18 mechanical and 4 non-mechanical. One mechanical factory was the subject of extensive improvements during 1951. 12 inspections were made during 1950, and 12 during 1951, when conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

6. Offensive Trades. There are none. Structural improvements are under consideration at the slaughterhouse, following the closure of the slaughterhouses at Pitlochry and Killin.

7. Burial Ground. The burial ground is well kept.

8. General. The number of complaints dealt with was 1950 - 17, 1951 - 14, necessitating 38 and 29 visits respectively by the Sanitary Inspector. There was no recurrence of the infestation of earwigs at the temporary houses, mentioned in the last report. The public conveniences have been well maintained.

The general state of health in the Burgh remained very satisfactory.

ABERNETHY

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. A.L. Riddell

1. Housing. 6 houses were completed during 1950 and a further 8 during 1951, the total number of houses erected by the Council at 31/12/51 being 56.

2. Water Supply. This was of good quality and sufficient in quantity.

3. Drainage. The system generally has functioned satisfactorily.

4. Scavenging. This has been carried out satisfactorily.

5. Factories. The 5 factories in the Burgh were each visited once annually when conditions were found to be satisfactory.

6. Burial Ground. This has been well maintained. A new burial ground will soon be required and several sites have been investigated, so far without success.

7. General. General inspections were made as follows:- 1950 - 45, 1951 - 47.

ALYTH

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. J. Chalmers

1. Water Supply. This is ample in quantity for the needs of the Burgh and satisfactory in quality. It is partly chlorinated. A new 7" main from Fyall to the Reservoir was completed during 1951.
2. Drainage. The sewage system remains as previously reported, consisting of tanks with effluent discharged to a sewage field which has been in use for many years. The field is now sewage sick and the final effluent is not of very good quality.
3. Cleansing. This has been satisfactory.
4. Factories. Regular visits were paid to the 26 factories which in general were found to be satisfactory.
5. Housing. A further 16 houses were completed during the two years, including 8 small houses for elderly people. The total number of houses provided by the Council at 31/12/51 was 165.
6. General. The school is kept in satisfactory condition. The burial ground which is outside the Burgh is well kept. In general the health of the Burgh remained satisfactory.

AUCHTERADER

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. A.L.D. Bowick

1. Housing. 19 houses were completed during 1950 and 21 houses during 1951. The total number of houses now erected by the Council was 195 at 31/12/51 when a further 16 houses were under construction.
2. Water Supply. The supply has been adequate in quantity although there was some lack of pressure during a dry spell in 1951. Steps have been taken to rectify this.
3. Drainage. The drainage system and sewage works continue to operate satisfactorily.
4. Cleansing. There has been no change in the cleansing arrangements which have been satisfactory.
5. Factories. These have been kept in a satisfactory condition.
6. Miscellaneous. The school has been well kept, and during 1951 the sanitary arrangements were improved. The burial grounds have been maintained in satisfactory order.

During 1951, Mr. Thomas Thomson, who had given very efficient service as Sanitary Inspector for a long number of years, retired from the post and was succeeded by Mr. A.L.D. Bowick.

BLAIRGOWRIE

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. W.A. Coutts

1. Housing. 8 houses were completed during the year 1951, the total number of houses now provided by the Council at 31/12/51 being 72, with a further 8 houses under construction at that date.
2. Water Supply. The water supplies continued to be satisfactory.
3. Drainage. Previous reports have referred to difficulties in the two sewage disposal works and during the year improvements were under consideration.
4. Cleansing. This has been carried out efficiently and the coup has been managed satisfactorily.
5. Slaughterhouse. This is fairly well looked after. Its situation in practically the centre of the town is unfortunate, its ancillary facilities are no longer adequate for the volume of work, and the condemned meat store is most unsatisfactory.
6. Miscellaneous. The 61 factories have been regularly inspected and the few minor defects found were remedied. The schools are kept in satisfactory condition. The burial grounds are well maintained. The Lodginghouse is a very old building and not in good condition.

CALLANDER

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. D.M. Thomson

1. Housing. 15 houses were completed during 1950, the total number of houses now provided by the Council being 141 as at 31/12/51, when a further 10 were under construction.
2. Water supply. This continues to be of excellent quality and ample in quantity
3. Drainage The sewage disposal systems continue to function as satisfactorily as possible, but renewal is now long overdue.
4. Cleansing Scavenging and collection of refuse has been carried out in an efficient manner.
5. Miscellaneous The factories have been regularly inspected and are kept in a satisfactory condition. The schools are well kept. The two burial grounds are well cared for

COUPAR ANGUS

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. G.D. Oliphant

1. Housing. 13 houses were completed during 1950 and 10 during 1951. At 31/12/51 the total number of houses erected by the Council was 162, with a further 22 under construction
2. Water Supply. During June, 1951, following a complaint regarding unpleasant taste, the burns which are the source of the supply were examined. This showed that during spraying operations on neighbouring fields, water had been drawn from one of the burns and there had been a certain amount of spillage which had run back into the burn. Fortunately the preparation used was non-toxic. Apart from this risk, the burns are subject to pollution and very close supervision is required to ensure a safe supply. The Council has now agreed to provide a new supply as soon as it is possible to do so, and negotiations are in progress.
3. Drainage. The sewage works are operating efficiently and the effluent is satisfactory. The waste from the new canning factory enters the sewage system, but the factory operated for only a short period during 1951, when the system was able to cope.
4. Cleansing This service was operated in a satisfactory manner
5. Factories. There are 21 factories within the Burgh. 21 visits were made in 1950 and 24 in 1951 when conditions were found in general to be satisfactory. Two notices were served during 1951 and the defects were remedied
6. General There is one house let in lodgings and this is well kept. The burial ground is in good order. The school is kept in good condition. Very few complaints were received, all of a minor nature.

CRIEFF

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. C. Rankin

1. Housing. 24 houses were completed during 1950, the total number of houses completed being 331 as at 31/12/51, when an additional 48 houses were under construction.
2. Water Supply. This is ample in quantity and excellent in quality.
3. Drainage. The sewage works continue to function efficiently.
4. Cleansing Shop refuse is collected daily and house refuse twice weekly. The coup has been well maintained.
5. Offensive Trades. There are none. The improvements at the slaughterhouse carried out in 1949 have provided for much more efficient working. During 1950, a separate fat room was provided and improvements carried out to the condemned meat shed. The slaughterhouse is well maintained.
6. Schools. These are well kept. Improvements in the conveniences at St. Dominic's have been commenced.
7. Burial Grounds The burial grounds are well kept. Only one is now in use.
8. Factories Regular visits were paid to the 46 factories in the Burgh.

DOUNE

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. A.J. Low

1. Housing. 10 new houses were completed during 1951, the total number of houses erected by the Council at 31/12/51 being 72.
2. Water Supply. This has been satisfactory. The filters are systematically cleaned in rotation and during spate periods, aluminoferric is used for rapid settlement prior to filtration.
3. Sewage. This has functioned satisfactorily.
4. Cleansing. This continues to be satisfactory. Food waste bins are used, and the swill collected by a local farmer for pig feeding.
5. Factories. At routine visits to the 14 factories, these were found to be well kept.
6. General. The usual small numbers of trivial nuisances were dealt with. There are now no piggeries in the Burgh. The school has been well kept. The two burial grounds have been well cared for. Additional drainage has been provided at the new cemetery at Kilmadock where the ground has proved to be very water-retentive. A block of old buildings in Balkrach Street, which had been handed over to the Council has been sold at site value and is to be demolished.

DUNBLANE

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. B.J. McKay

1. Housing. No houses were completed during 1950 and 1951, the total number of houses erected by the Council remaining at 195, nearly a quarter of the total number of houses in the Burgh.
2. Water Supply. This is ample in quantity and satisfactory in quality. Further waste detection has reduced the consumpt from 106 to 91 gallons per head per day, still a high figure. An additional supply is still being provided to Clackmannan County in summer.
3. Drainage. The sewage works continued to function satisfactorily with an improved effluent.
4. Cleansing. This continues to be satisfactory, and the coup at Barbush has been well maintained.
5. Offensive Trades. There are none. The slaughterhouse has been maintained in satisfactory condition.
6. Factories. Regular visits were paid to the 19 factories in the Burgh.
7. General. The schools are well kept. The two burial grounds in the Burgh are also well kept. An increasing number of complaints are received relating to old properties where owners are finding it increasingly difficult to cope with heavy repair bills to ageing property.

KINROSS

Sanitary Inspector - Mr. C.M. Stevenson

1. Housing. 18 houses were completed during 1950 and 8 during 1951. The total number of houses now erected by the Council is 142, and at 31/12/51, a further 18 houses were under construction.
2. Water supply. The Burgh is served from two sources. The main supply comes from springs in the Cleish Hills which feed the catch tanks and main storage reservoirs. Improvements have been carried out at the head works. The secondary supply comes from a well on the outskirts of the Burgh. The supply is satisfactory.
3. Drainage. The effluent from the two sewage works discharges into the Loch and has created no nuisance.
4. Cleansing. Refuse collection is carried out thrice weekly and is tipped at Blairadam where a shallow strip of land is being reclaimed.
5. General. The 22 factories have been visited regularly. The school is well kept. The three burial grounds are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

PITLOCHRY

Sanitary Inspector - Mr M. Coupland

1. Housing. 14 houses were completed during 1950 and 10 in 1951, the total number of Council houses now being 112, with a further 18 in course of erection.

2. Water Supply. The supply is ample and of satisfactory quality. The requirements at the Hydro Camp at Port-na-Craig are now greatly reduced

3. Drainage. The sewage works have functioned satisfactorily. The unsatisfactory sewage arrangements for the small group of houses on the south side of the Burgh has been partially improved. Two of the houses now have a tail drain discharging direct to the Tummel.

4. Cleansing. This is satisfactory, but disposal of the refuse has now become an acute problem, as the coup at Aldour is now practically full

5. General. The slaughterhouse has now been closed. The school has been well kept. The men's convenience is in a poor state of repair. The burial grounds have been well maintained. Regular visits were paid to the 32 factories.

APPENDIX I

VITAL STATISTICS

Details according to local areas

	Population 30/6/51	Births	Birth Rate	Deaths	Death Rate*
Perth County	88,447	1,271	14.4	1,282	14.5
Landward	60,552	852	14.1	175	12.8
Aberfeldy	1,533	17	10.8	37	24.1
Abernethy	684	14	20.4	8	11.8
Alyth	2,088	28	13.4	46	22.0
Auchterarder	2,452	37	15.1	43	17.6
Blairgowrie	5,442	95	17.5	101	18.6
Callander	1,751	22	13.1	29	17.1
Coupar Angus	2,193	31	14.5	39	17.8
Crieff	5,514	66	11.7	97	17.6
Doune	844	22	26.1	21	24.9
Dunblane	3,012	41	13.6	46	15.2
Pitlochry	2,402	46	19.1	40	16.7
Kinross County	7,484	113	15.1	117	15.6
Landward	4,969	70	14.1	73	14.7
Kinross Burgh	2,515	43	17.1	44	17.5
Joint County	95,931	1,384	14.4	1,399	14.6

* Death rate corrected for residence

APPENDIX II

DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE

Summary of work done by District Nurses during the year 1951

District	Cases nursed		Nursing visits	Ante-natal visits	Child Welfare visits	Tuber-culosis visits	School In-spections and visits
	General	Maternity					
Aberfeldy	97	7	2284	12	431	41	81
Aberfoyle	71	4	1319	47	334	42	78
Abernethy	112	9	2104	72	317	17	23
Almondbank	123	9	2077	42	509	4	43
Alyth	135	10	4867	137	1480	59	395
Auchterarder	105	15	2441	75	973	44	85
Auchtergaven	325	13	3336	62	466	-	43
Balquhidder	145	4	1784	8	163	9	33
Birman/Dunkeld	132	13	1717	15	731	67	103
Blairgowrie	427	41	5974	12	1889	41	338
Braco	207	9	2922	40	492	21	43
Callander	141	9	2217	78	573	71	55
Comrie	222	13	3421	31	410	44	91
Coupar Angus	81	18	1721	42	1343	101	119
Crieff	514	35	7151	157	1593	52	175
Dunbarney	38	15	1186	88	726	26	120
Dunblane	199	19	3222	57	677	45	45
Dunning	73	5	2151	48	479	33	50
East Carse	123	17	3294	28	1208	55	250
Errol	55	13	1294	31	813	68	24
Forthingall	96	-	1555	19	111	10	24
Fowlis Wester	63	1	1167	30	257	-	96
Glenfarg	73	5	1356	23	344	13	74
Glenlyon	145	1	1817	62	285	24	25
Kenmore	117	1	1078	39	162	33	41
Killin	44	3	1105	45	383	-	65
Logierait	100	2	1833	12	375	12	47
Methven	204	16	2194	69	644	9	83
Muthill	198	3	2704	36	441	4	45
Pitlochry	193	6	1934	19	549	66	88
Rannoch & Foss	159	-	1761	61	294	-	89
Scone	122	13	2447	96	1043	27	158
Stanley	294	22	2655	92	985	83	95
St. Martin's	83	10	1451	32	725	41	44
Strathallan	161	4	1147	33	373	-	37
Strathardle	107	6	1449	10	648	6	89
Thornhill	108	7	1227	52	386	-	119
Vale of Teith	206	7	3173	73	1269	54	133
West Carse	116	11	1661	48	508	27	37
West Atholl	166	9	1686	25	511	25	66
Fossoway	56	9	2150	32	429	11	62
Kinross	106	38	3113	103	1425	76	123
Milnathort	102	21	3285	65	688	67	88
	6344	473	100430	2258	28447	1428	3922

APPENDIX III

LIST OF STAFF

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER	-	James Kelman, M.D., D.P.H.
ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS	-	James A. Sellar, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H. Elizabeth T. MacDougall, M.B. Ch.B.
SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER	-	William C. Arkle (appointed 16/1/50).
ASSISTANT DENTAL OFFICERS	-	Mrs. M.S. Black (appointed 4/12/49), Christian J. Brunton, (appointed 16/1/50), Elizabeth J. Mann, (appointed 15/1/51)
SUPERINTENDENT NURSING OFFICER	-	Elizabeth Chalmers, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V., (retired 31/3/50) Elizabeth W. Himsworth, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. (Appointed 2/5/50).
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT NURSING OFFICER	-	Elsbeth L. Brown, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. (appointed 27/6/50).
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	-	William Brannan (appointed 3/9/51).
CHILDREN'S OFFICER	-	Frederick J. Earnshaw.
SENIOR PHYSIOTHERAPIST	-	Agnes C. Hampton.
COUNTY SANITARY INSPECTOR	-	Alexander L. Riddell (appointed 16/9/49).
DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTOR:		
Eastern:		George D. Oliphant,
Highland:		Alexander Fraser (resigned 11/4/51), George A. Sangster (appointed 16/6/51),
Perth/Central:		George V. Hadden (Senior),
Western		Alexander J. Low,
Kinross:		C.M. Stevenson.